



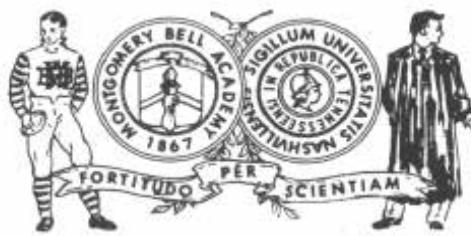
IF OUR LOVE IS FANTASY
Why is Adrian Peterson our remedy?

ALUMNUS RETURNS FROM EGYPT
Read Ezell explains the situation overseas



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THE BELL RINGER

Montgomery Bell Academy

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MBA ENTERS THE 700 CLUB



THE BIG RED JUGGERNAUT CANNOT BE STOPPED: MBA Football sprints its way to the program's 700th win, celebrating 115 brilliant years of football

THE BELL RINGER LOOKS BACK AT FOOTBALL SUCCESS

By Anthony Swenson
Sports Editor

The continued excellence in the MBA football program was once again exhibited by the overtime victory over Brentwood Academy in the rain on September 20, 2013, marking the 300th win in MBA football history. In addition to this feat, Coach Euverard reached his 100th win in his coaching career on the same night.

Since its inaugural season in 1899, Big Red football has upheld a certain standard of excellence. MBA has managed

to compete well in nearly every season since its beginning and has been nationally ranked three times in the *USA Today* Super 25 (1999, 2000, 2003) as well as once in the PrepNation Top 25 final rankings (1999). With eight state titles recognized by the TSSAA (1955, 1967, 1968, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003), the football program has proven to be one of the best in the state. During the 1998-2000 seasons, MBA managed to reach a thirty-one game winning streak. MBA has had only twenty head football coaches. Tommy Owen's tenure of a combined 34 seasons is the longest. (Interestingly, four of the coaches

are listed as "unknown" during the school's early history.)

The Big Red football program has produced many college football players and even several NFL players. The first NFL player, dating back to 1952, Quarterback Bill Wade ('48), was selected first overall in the 1952 NFL Draft. Tom Santi ('04), Hunter Hillenmeyer ('99), Ingle Martin ('01), and most recently, Ben Bartholomew ('08) each reached the NFL in addition to Wade. Martin is MBA's most recently named Gatorade Tennessee Player of the Year. Current college football standouts include Wesley Johnson ('09)

and Fitz Lassing ('10), both currently at Vanderbilt, Brad Bars ('10) currently playing at Penn State, and Blake Bars ('11) at the University of Michigan.

The 2013 team is currently in a similar position as the storied past MBA teams. Following wins over both Baylor and Brentwood Academy, the remainder of the season looks promising for the Big Red, with the hopes of a TSSAA Division-II AA State Championship. Through depth on the roster and excellent coaching, the players and coaches are confident in their ability to bring home the coveted championship trophy.

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New anti-plagiarism software on campus

by Will Singer
Staff Writer

This year, the English department has begun using a new Internet service to squelch plagiarism in students' written work. The site is called Turnitin.com and is used to filter papers for work that students may have taken from the Internet and turned in as their own.

According to Turnitin.com, the paper is given an "originality test," which, as the website states, "ensures original work by checking submitted papers against 24+ billion web pages, 300+ million student papers and leading library databases and publications."

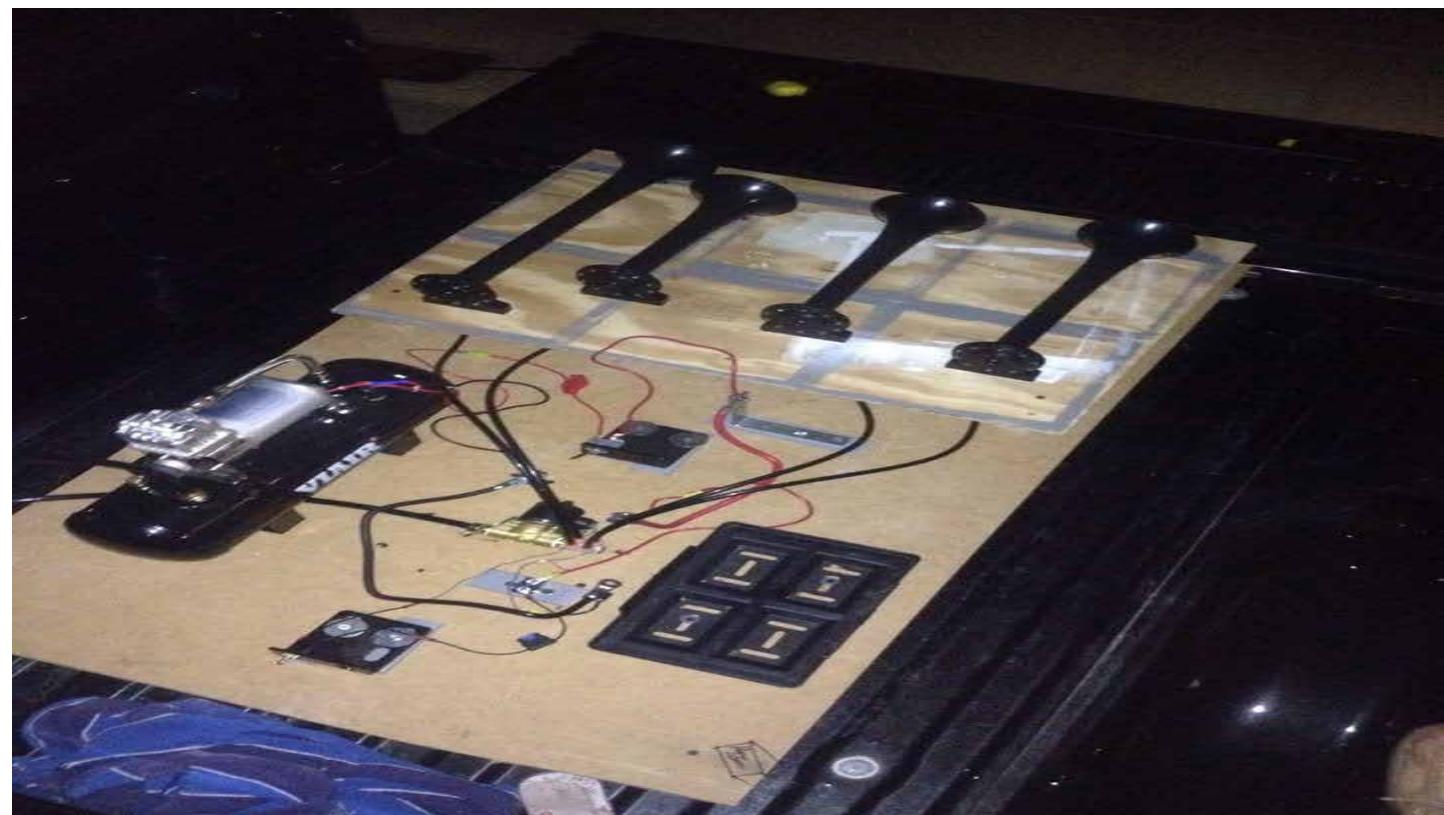
Essentially, the student's paper is submitted and then scanned for unoriginal work. Within a matter of seconds, the scanning is complete. The paper is then given a percent-plagiarized index that teachers can use to judge for themselves. The site should effectively filter the papers and deter students from copying their papers off the web.

MBA pays for the service and hopes it will be an effective means of not only stamping out cheating but also helping students to improve their quality of writing. The site boasts that, with its help, cheating on papers will become practically impossible.

Last year, many of the Honor Council's cases were related to plagiarism. Some of the cases were accidents in which students simply forgot to cite a web source. Others were more malicious cases of direct copying off of the Internet.

Since this is MBA's first year of using it, only time will tell if Turnitin.com is indeed an effective means of stopping plagiarism.

TRAINNNNNN Seniors take initiative, purchase train horn



THE NEW STUDENT SECTION STARTS A RUCKUS: Decibel levels and spirit are currently on the up and up

By Wells Hamilton
Editor-in-Chief

Recently, a small group of Seniors, spearheaded by Nick Boney, Ryan Carr, and the members of the Big Red Club, have taken it upon themselves to take the school's student section to the next level by equipping it with some heavy-duty artillery. One fully-functioning train horn joins the ranks of the student section, right up there with the Vuvuzellas and the megaphone.

As "the student section formerly known as Rack City," continues on its odyssey towards finding a personalized identity, the introduction of the train horn has proven to be a rally point around which students can gravitate. Its reassuring blasts of energy give students and players hope in our leadership, acting as a catalyst to the student section's already impressive

animus.

In addition to the benefits of the train horn, it is also a fantastic example of senior leadership and initiative. The funding for the train horn came largely from a grass roots effort in which a small few went around and received individual donations from avid fans. Ryan Carr and Nick Boney partnered with Big Red Club head Ben Yahnian in order to secure the final funding needed for the horn. Of course, that may have been the easy part. Assembling the horn seemed to take quite a good deal of effort, requiring all of the boy's Physics knowledge to complete its creation. Basically, the horn consists of a car battery and a tank of compressed air, hooked up to four main blasters. In light of recent events at the BA game, moves have been made to ensure the horn is waterproof at all times. However, the Big Red Army managed to brave the storm

and keep the horn dry throughout the game.

Many have had concerns about the horn's potential for abuse. Although it would be tempting to unleash the blast when the opposing team's quarterback is poised to throw, the Big Red Club asserts that the horn will only be used in ways that exemplify sportsmanship. Currently, the policy is that the train horn will only be blown when our team initially takes the field and when we score a touchdown. Admittedly, exceptions were made for big stops and gains of significant yardage.

The Big Red Club hopes to preserve the horn throughout the year and use it as a possible gift for future classes to enjoy.

Security key cards on the way, may improve safety

By Rishi Malipeddi
Staff Writer

Shortly after midterm exams in December 2013, a new security system will be installed on campus. The system will be a drastic change from the previous one, but at the same time necessary.

The previous security measures consisted of security guards present on campus during the weekends, in attempt to end trespassing on the school campus. The security guards, however, can only be in one place at a time and can therefore only cover so much area on such a large campus.

The new system is called the Access Control System and can be used in three different ways. The first is by utilizing fingerprint scanners, the second is by having a key card access system, and the third is by allowing access only to those who know the password for the system.

MBA is using the key card type of system because it is the most efficient option for the school. The cards will be swiped against a scanner, which will then read the antenna in the card and allow access to those who have the designated cards. Each student will be issued one card, and the buildings will be secured during class periods.

After the system is set up, all visitors will be required to get security passes from the main office or Massey. According to Mr. Bob Yakushi, "the Access Control System will help rid the campus of unwanted guests who want to break in." Due to a recent spike in campus crime, the school is adopting this system now to ensure a decrease in theft by outside parties. Just a few weeks ago, an unwanted guest walked onto campus and stole two people's electronic devices.

The system has been talked about seriously since last year; however, proceeding with plans like these takes a lot

of time and support. Mr. Gioia and the staff have been pushing for this new system to better campus security and make the campus safer for students and faculty. Massey, Lowry, Currey Gymnasium and the Dining Hall will be the first buildings in which the technology is implemented. Davis, Ingram, Ball and Carter (the phase two buildings) will soon follow.

The main disadvantage of the Access Control System occurs when someone leaves his backpack in a building and returns to retrieve it, only to find that the building has been secured. If someone needs or wants access to a certain building during the weekend, he can get his card programmed to open a designated building during certain hours.

The biggest security threat to the Access Control System is the potential for someone to follow another person who has access to a building into that

building. Another threat to security on campus occurs when someone props a door open, leaving the door ajar for an unwarranted person to enter the building as he or she wishes to do so. If someone without a key card attempts to enter a building with the Access Control System protecting it, the system will usually sense the danger and either lock down or set off an alarm which would signal for someone to apprehend the intruder.

MBA has never had security of comparable magnitude in the past, yet this unprecedented move signals a big change in the way of the administration's thinking. The overall purpose of instituting the new security system is to protect the people and belongings on campus by restricting the campus' accessibility to outside people or intruders.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR HOMECOMING COURT 2013



Seniors: Ellie Osteen, Mary Eugenia Hunt, Emily Peters (Escorted by Russell Carpenter, Paul Garrard, and Ben Barton)

Juniors: Kathleen Burns, Lark Morrison (Escorted by Keith Gambill and Denney Lackey)

Sophomores: Keely Hendricks (Escorted by Wells Hamilton)

Freshmen: Addie Perkerson (Escorted by Ben Yahnian)

On Brinkmanship?

Conflict in Syria escalates to global proportions



By Armand Jhala
Staff Writer

Ever since the Egyptian people revolted against Hosni Mubarak over two years ago, the Middle East has become a hotbed of political unrest and revolutionary activity. Numerous populations have fought for their own rights in Tunisia, Libya and Syria. One way or another, most of these revolutions have been wildly successful.

Mubarak smartly stepped down out of the fear of being killed, while Qaddafi foolishly kept on fighting until Libyans got some help from the US and NATO to assist in the killing of their longstanding dictator. Qaddafi had been in power for the previous 35 years.

Syria, however, has become "that" country—the one that people try to push to the side and hope works its issues out.

The primary reason that the US got involved in the revolutionary crises in Egypt and Libya in the first place was that America had already been involved in Egypt and Libya. The United States put Mubarak into power decades ago and also became heavily involved with Qaddafi and Libya, largely due to oil interests.

The US was only involved in Syria politically, and for most of the time, the relations were extremely tense, whether the issues related to a hostage crisis, relationships with Israel or even the War on Terror. America and Syria could never seem to get along.

So back to 2011, the Syrians

wanted to join in on the Arab Spring movement. They staged the "Day of Dignity" and "Day of Rage" protests in the cities of Damascus and Daraa, respectively. The Syrian populace had a right to be angered. There had been numerous human rights violations by the government, political corruption was rampant and, most importantly, the economy was in the gutter, trivializing even the Occupy Wall Street movement.

For obvious reasons, Assad and his government were not ecstatic about these protests. After all, he wanted to stay in power. Assad, therefore, deployed his main weapon, the Syrian army. In May and July of 2011, the Syrian military killed hundreds of anti-government protestors for the sole reason of "keeping control."

Finally, in August 2011, President Obama explicitly called for Assad to step down from power. The US had already been sanctioning Syria for the past few months but finally froze all assets of the Syrian government that were subject to US jurisdiction.

The irony of these killings lies in the increased outrage and alienation of the population and the rebels. Now, as the fighting continues in Syria, some have started to call the inner conflict a "civil war," and the US has taken no direct action. America finds itself in quite the conundrum. Should the government directly involve military resources in a fight that many believe it has no business being in?

The main problem is that potential

involvement in Syria offers us no incentives. Yes, it's a humanitarian crisis and America should definitely stop the atrocities that have occurred, but when have human rights atrocities really pushed the U.S. into action? Think Darfur. Think Rwanda. Think India.

After some useless debating in the UN Security Council against the views of Russia and China, the U.S. sat rather inactive. Instead of strict military action against Assad and the Syrian government, America took the "strongly-worded letter" approach.

There was a span of a few months in late 2012 during which the U.S. ended up condemning Assad's actions but actually doing nothing. President Obama noted that the red line for Syria was the use of chemical weapons (this will come into play a bit later), and so the US began to fund the rebels with money and humanitarian aid.

The American government watched from afar and assumed a limited role as the conflict played out, something it had not done in Libya when a similar situation had arisen.

On August 21st, 2013, everything changed. It was on this day that the Syrian government was accused of launching a Sarin gas attack in the suburbs of Damascus, killing approximately 1,500 people. Following the UN report that Sarin gas was, in fact, used by Assad against his own people, the pressure was put on the West to act.

President Obama, in the following few days, strongly considered strikes

against Syria. Although Obama would have been able to command a strike himself, it would have decreased his political capital. On August 31st, 2013, he called for a Congressional vote on the prospect of striking Syria.

Congress was in no rush to strike Syria because, truly, it didn't want to find America stuck in the middle of another conflict overseas. Instead of striking Syria, Russia, a strong ally of Assad, proposed that Syria give up all of its chemical weapons to international control.

The US just recently agreed to the framework of a chemical weapons deal with Russia and Syria. Strict economic and political action will still be taken against Syria for their actions. This deal will test Syria's sincerity, Russia's resolve and America's riskiness. Hopefully, this gamble will pay off.

After the chemical weapon attacks, the US found itself in a paradoxically horrific situation. We were essentially asked why the killing of 100,000 citizens is not as bad as the use of Sarin gas on around 1,500 people. In the eyes of the US, chemical weapons symbolize much more than just a "civil war" that would eventually come to a resolution.

Convincing a US population that has just endured a decade-long war in the Middle East to get involved in another conflict is a difficult task. Regardless of what decisions have been made, let's just hope that a war can be averted and that the conflict ends soon.

THE REVOLUTION WILL NOT BE TELEVISED

MBA Alumnus Read Ezell Speaks on Egypt

By Sam Weien
Associate Editor

MBA alumnus Read Ezell ('06) has been living the Egyptian conflict first hand. Having resided in Egypt since 2010, he has experienced both Egyptian revolutions and has seen two of history's greatest events play out before him.

The chaos stemmed from the 2012 elections, in which Mohammed Morsi was elected over three moderate candidates who split the majority of the vote. Morsi never had overwhelming support, but his unpopular constitution was the tipping point.

Ezell says there was a "slow crescendo" of political pressure that caused another revolution. However, this second coup may cause a larger problem.

According to Ezell, the recent coup may "encourage a somewhat antidemocratic movement." The Egyptian military has always had great support from its citizens, but the lack of governmental leadership may propel it into control.

"Egyptians see a possible military takeover as great," Ezell says. "The citizens feel the military has the public interest in mind."

With that being said, Ezell thinks the situation in Egypt is currently "very hard to predict." In reality, it would be nearly impossible for Egypt to become a stratocracy (government led by the military), but the military will at least have some power, formal or informal.

According to Ezell, "Most of Egypt would be happy with an elected secular government." Look for the military, however, to have great influence on the new leader.

However, a new Egyptian



TAHRIR SQUARE FILLS UP WITH PROTESTORS: Egyptians band together for political stability

government may cause problems for the United States. "Even though Egyptian and American military goals somewhat align, the Egyptian military is not listening to the US government." In Egypt, "popular opinion shifts very quickly," causing toxic foreign relations and an extremely unstable tide of public opinion.

In the anti-West era, it is detrimental for a political organization to contact or even have support from the American government. "The situation is currently so unstable that any American action could be taken in the wrong way," Ezell asserts.

Another major question is how the revolution will affect the sociopolitical landscape of Egypt. Many Americans think that social media was an essential part of these revolutions, but "its importance was greatly exaggerated." According to Ezell, social media's role was over-dramatized because its presence "is very accessible to Western media and Western audiences. It was a catalyst, not a driving force."

However, social media is a double-edged sword. Since citizens can view each other's profile, public scrutiny has increased considerably. Because Egypt is so fickle,

and the mob of the public is intimidating, "there has been a change in the comfort of expressing opinions." Blending in is more important than independent ideology.

There will also be significant fallout due to the failure of the Muslim Brotherhood. Whether the group was actually extremist is debatable, but in Egypt, "the Muslim Brotherhood were painted as radicals."

Its adherence to Muslim principles in government has led to general distaste for religion in politics. Any other political organization that is based off of religious ideology will likely face a major backlash from the general public. Thus, the age of religion and politics strongly intertwined in Egypt is probably over.

Looking forward, Egypt has its fair share of problems to face. It is getting ready to face a water crisis like it has never seen before.

The Nile is not supporting the nation as it used to, and fresh water is becoming much more scarce. In addition, Egypt must deal with "huge agricultural subsidies that it cannot afford to keep in its budget." Moreover, Egypt is facing an unemployment crisis, and it's generally "harder to support one's family." Economic hardship definitely serves as a catalyst for political turmoil, as the people look towards a government for answers.

Even though they may have a new government, Egypt still has many problems to face. The common fear among the international community is that the Egyptian people have lost faith in democracy as a viable form of government. As for the Egyptian people themselves, the population remains optimistic in its continual search for stability and equal protection of competing interests.



MBA ALUMNUS READ EZEEL ('06) BOARDS TANK IN EGYPT: Proving that you can literally go anywhere with an MBA diploma

THE BELL RINGER INTERVIEWS BRADEN WELBORN: *Resilience, Fire Safety*

By Harrison Davies
Staff Writer

While trying to start a bonfire at his house in Franklin on August 9th, senior Braden Welborn caught on fire. He had accidentally spilled lighter fluid on his shirt and was trying to light a pyre of wood when suddenly the flames were no longer just on the fire, but also on his shirt.

"Terrified, having no clue what to do," Welborn recounts, "I immediately

began to run around in circles. Finally, after about ten seconds, I tried to stop, drop, and roll but it did nothing because I literally just face-planted. Getting up, I tried to pull my shirt off, but ended up burning my face. I was just running to run at that point and could not focus on anything. Finally, Ryan Carr hit me into a large tire track in the ground that was filled with water. Just like that, the flames were gone. Thirty seconds of chaos that are still so vivid in my mind."

Thinking he was fine and feeling

no immediate pain, Welborn went back into his house. He began taking a cold shower, which ended with him peeling large amounts of skin off of his chest. As he got out of the shower, his Dad looked at him and said that they needed to go to the hospital immediately.

"Hearing him say that made the slowly increasing pain become all too real. It was the worst pain I have ever experienced, and I fell to the ground in agony. The car ride was even worse. I have never screamed so much in my

entire life."

When asked about how everything has been since the fire, Welborn commented, "Honestly, if I had the chance to redo that night, I wouldn't. I think that going through it, though, has really helped me become stronger and more mature. Although the pain was terrible, it was a pretty astonishing experience actually being on fire, something that few people can understand. Sometimes in the hospital when I would just be lying there, my mind would begin to replay the night over and over again until I couldn't take it anymore.

But Braden is very glad to be back in the swing of things, and even more excited to be finally out of the hospital. "I did miss going to school a whole lot while I was recovering. Being back in a schedule really helps me keep my mind off the burns. MBA has been amazing by helping me out in so many different ways. Whether it be Captain Norton bringing me food in the hospital or teachers exempting me from certain assignments, I am thankful for the support from my school and especially all of my classmates."



ARTIST RENDERING OF THE EVENT: *Ryan Carr stands up to the Phoenix, does not actually use pick-axe*

Seniors found media review website: *Lazy Fiction Squad*



TOP MEDIA REVIEWERS SET TO WORK ON DIGESTING POPULAR CULTURE: *Dreaming of a better tomorrow*

By Tarun Mallipeddi
News Editor

This year, a group of seniors started a media review website called Lazy Fiction (www.lazyfiction.com) as an experiment to see how far they could go with it and how many viewers they could attract. The founders of the site, Tyler Forcum and Tejas Reddy, came up with the idea over the summer.

Some of the other main contributors are senior top critics Chip Evans and Denney Lackey, senior budding critics Wells Hamilton and John Higham and fellow senior website designer Andrew Dupuis. There are only a few main contributors right now, but Tejas and Tyler are extending invitations to anyone

who is interested to write with them. No previous experience or skill is required. They are just looking for interested writers.

The main factors that they are looking for in new writers are enthusiastic interest and strong opinions in the various areas of entertainment such as movies, television, and music. They do not require writers to be gifted analysts, as those skills will come with the practice and experience of writing for the website in and of itself.

The Lazy Fiction crew have written about twenty-five reviews since the inception of the website in late July. As of now, they are updating the site about once every two weeks, but their goal is to update it once a week when all

the writers have become accustomed to the formatting of the site. When asked what their dream was for the site, Forcum and Reddy simultaneously replied, "Our dream is to dethrone rottentomatoes.com and IMDb.com."

Presently, the writers have compiled reviews of such box office sensations as *This Is the End*, *Man of Steel*, *Iron Man 3* and *Pacific Rim* in addition to critically-acclaimed television series such as *Mad Men*, *The Big Bang Theory* and *Game of Thrones*. The site also takes a look at chart-toppers such as Daft Punk's *Random Access Memories* and Vampire Weekend's *Modern Vampires of the City*.

One of the more unique features of their website is a Fandango extension which serves as an advertisement. Fandango will pay them two dollars for every time a site visitor goes to fandango.com through a link on the lazyfiction.com website. This feature is great for generating revenue that will go towards expanding the website and its business plan.

For this reason, the contributors are urging us to visit their website if not for any other reason than to go to fandango.com through Lazy Fiction, because doing so will help support them in future endeavors. As some of the website is still under construction, these revenues are essential to their progress and development.

All the contributors have been engrossed in music, television, and movies since a young age and have thus built up an impressive reserve of knowledge amongst themselves. When asked to describe each other, Tyler immediately said, "Tejas' writing style is reminiscent of the visionary M. Night Shyamalan," to which Tejas speedily replied, "Tyler's cutthroat business tactics are reminiscent of the suave Don Draper."

Whenever these guys come together, their conversations are full of such pop culture references. It will surely be a thrill to see where their website will take them and how it will shape our own perspectives on the entertainment industry. Let's try to help them out as best as we can by supporting them in the early stages of their soon-to-be business empire.



WATCH THE THRONE: *Rotten Tomatoes* is an anachronism

Uruguay's legalization may prompt shift in US domestic policy

By Will Glover
Entertainment Editor

With final Senate approval expected by late September, Uruguay is set to become the first country in the world to legalize the sale of marijuana. This new law creates a marijuana monopoly where the government is responsible for "importing, producing, obtaining, storing, commercializing, and distributing" the drug, according to Uruguay President Jose Mujica.

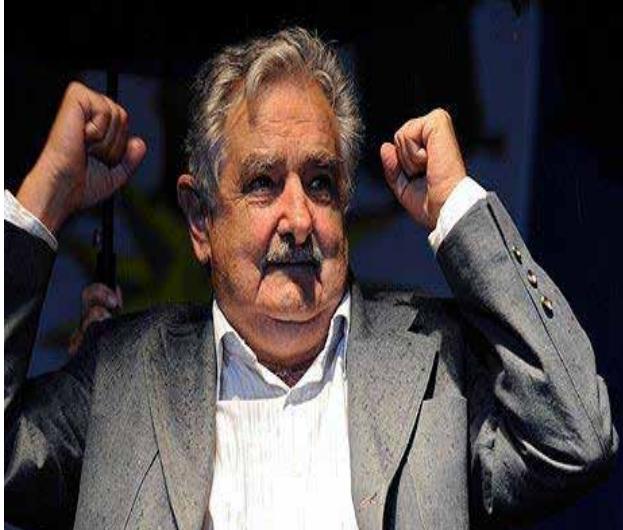
The Uruguayan government plans on licensing producers to supply marijuana to be sold in pharmacies, and it will be distributed like any behind-the-counter drug. Licensed users will be able to purchase up to 40 grams (1.4 ounces) per month, and those who register with the government will be able to grow up to six plants at home for personal use.

Uruguay, unlike most Latin American countries, has always been ahead of its time when it comes to positive social change and expanding the freedoms of its citizens, from separation of church and state to introducing an eight-hour workday. After inviting a wide range of international experts to take part in panel discussions on the issue, the Uruguay government realized that the best way to promote public health and safety is to legalize in order to drive out dangerous dealers who sell the drug. President Mujica explained that the "advantage [of Uruguay's legalization policy] is that we can identify who is consuming. If we identify consumers, we can help them. If we criminalize them and keep them underground, we steer them towards drug dealers and wash our hands of responsibility."

This is a realization that has started to gain serious momentum in several countries around the world, including America, a country with a long anti-drug history.

In August of 1969, President Richard Nixon announced that drug abuse was a "serious national threat," calling for an anti-drug policy at both the state and federal levels. Nixon, in accordance with his tough-on-drugs platform, was attempting to limit the scope of what he and his administration believed to be a counter-culture phenomenon, filled with hippies, marijuana, free love, and general anti-war sentiments at a time when Nixon was still supporting the Vietnam War. What many at the time didn't realize was that, initially, two-thirds of the money used to fight drugs went to prevention and treatment programs. Privately, Nixon knew that his system of treatment was working; but in 1971, just before his reelection year, Nixon announced that drugs were "Public enemy number one" and introduced a reinvigorated drug program he called "The War on Drugs."

It has been over forty years, and the United States has spent more than two trillion dollars fighting the War on Drugs, according to the Drug Policy Alliance. Over that span of time, more than forty-five million people have been arrested for drug-related crimes; and yet, not only has drug use in America remained the same, but the potency of drugs is as high as it has ever been.



JOSE MUJICA: People's President of Uruguay

These statistics are shocking, but somewhat expected, especially when looking at our recent history of prohibition in the early twentieth century, and to be sure, there is a reason why prohibition of alcohol in the 1920's failed. Mainly, the federal government realized that it was impossible to regulate consumption. Outlawing alcohol created a black market of speakeasies and backwoods moonshine makers, and as Mark Thornton wrote in a policy analysis of prohibition for the Cato Institute, "Alcohol became more dangerous to consume; crime increased and became 'organized'... The lessons of prohibition remain important today." And he's right: prohibition didn't solve any problems, it only created them, and the same is true for the current War on Drugs.

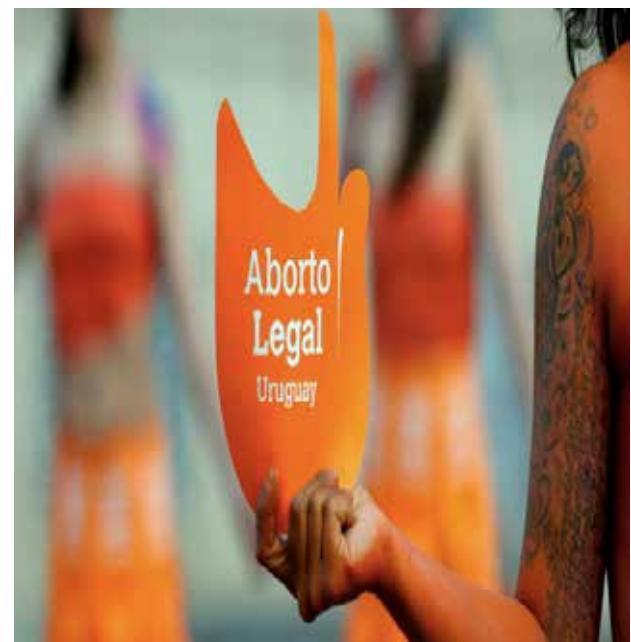
Case in point: If you are underage in America today, it is exponentially easier to purchase drugs illegally, but much harder to purchase alcohol or cigarettes legally. How could this be? Consider this: in order to purchase alcohol, you walk into a liquor store, one that has a state-issued permit that confirms the legality of sale, and hand the cashier a state-issued license proving you are of age. In a black market, where drugs are sold, no such restrictions exist. There are no checks and balances, no regulations to speak of. It's no coincidence that drug cartels and major dealers are some of the biggest supporters of America's current drug policy, because without prohibition, none of these entities would exist. In fact, the War on Drugs ensures their livelihood.

In his column for *The New York Times*, Adam Liptak recently wrote "The United States has less than 5 percent of the world's population. But it has almost a quarter of the world's prisoners." So why is America the "jailingest" country on Earth? You guessed it: The War on Drugs.

According to Law Enforcement Against Prohibition (LEAP), drug arrests related to marijuana occur at a rate of one every forty-two seconds. These millions of arrests have become standard procedure for fighting drug use, with little result. LEAP reports that drug arrests reduce "neither use nor abuse. After a rapist is arrested, there are fewer rapes. After a drug dealer is arrested, however, neither the supply nor the demand for drugs has seriously changed. The arrest merely creates a job opening for an endless stream of drug entrepreneurs who will take huge risks for the sake of the enormous profits. What's clear is that drug arrests only serve to punish those that use drugs and do nothing to address serious drug abuse. As Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow*, said in a recent interview, the War on Drugs has turned into a system "far more likely to create crime and destroy families than prevent crime and help to ensure safe and stable communities." So in the end, drug prohibition actually propels the very things it's trying to prevent; and yet, most politicians choose to ignore this basic fact.

For decades, it has been thought that politicians who support legalization are essentially committing political suicide. Due to cultural preconditioning and basic ignorance of the issue, most politicians view legalization as a full on endorsement of drug abuse, which is a ridiculous conclusion; for example, just because I support the legal sale of alcohol doesn't mean that I support drunk driving or alcoholism, and the same should be true for the legal sale of marijuana.

Many politicians are of the mindset that one of the basic roles of government is to, supposedly, protect people from themselves; this has served as the basis for justification of prohibition, which gets very confusing when looking at some basic statistics. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), "there are approximately 80,000 deaths attributable to excessive alcohol use each year in the United States." The CDC also reports that "more than 440,000 deaths" are attributable to excessive tobacco use. If the true goal is to protect people from themselves, why not outlaw alcohol and tobacco, two of the leading causes of death in America? In fact, why stop there?



DRUG POLICY SHIFT MAY BE PROMPTED BY CHANGES IN INTERNATIONAL ATTITUDES:
Considering the effects on US's "War On Drugs"

If I eat McDonalds three times a day for the rest of my life, to be sure, I will one day die of heart disease or obesity or any other side effect of greasy fast food. But does this mean we should outlaw Big Macs? Of course not.

Not surprisingly, the CDC reports no data on marijuana fatality rate; in the history of recorded medicine, there has never been a single death attributed to the excessive use of marijuana. This is a fact that most people are unaware of due to decades of government propaganda, which has always sought to exaggerate (and in many cases, fabricate) the supposed negative effects of the drug.

This propaganda has existed in order for the government to convince itself and the general public that wasting hundreds of billions of dollars each year and locking up millions of Americans is somehow justifiable, even though the current system inadvertently increases the availability of drugs.

Luckily, these truths have not gone unnoticed; what was once a soft and guarded whisper for legalization has turned into an open shout heard all across this country.

In the 2012 elections, both Washington and Colorado held state referenda to approve the recreational use of marijuana. But up until a few weeks ago, a major question was still floating in the air as to what the federal government's response would be, as marijuana remains illegal at the federal level.

Questions were answered when Attorney General Eric Holder announced in early August that the federal government would not interfere and allow Colorado and Washington to implement the legal recreational use of marijuana. He also announced new rules for federal prosecutors to reduce mandatory minimum sentences for non-violent drug-related crimes. While explaining his unprecedented move, Eric Holder said that "By reserving the most severe prison terms for serious, high-level, or violent drug traffickers or kingpins, we can better enhance public safety."

This extraordinary shift comes at the realization that America needs a smarter, more secure marijuana policy at a time when fifty-percent of Americans support legalization on a national level, according to a recent Gallup poll.

At a recent town-hall meeting in Arizona, John McCain said, "Maybe we should legalize. We're certainly moving that way as far as marijuana is concerned. I respect the will of the people."

I stand with John McCain in supporting the will of Americans in the belief that legalization is the surest way to a safer and freer world.

As Bob Dylan once sang, "The times they are a-changin." Oh how right he is.



THE BELL RINGER

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The staff of The Bell Ringer prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. Tennessean/Gannett in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.



The Blame Game

Who broke the government?

By Matt Miccioli
Opinions Editor

On Tuesday, October 1 at 12:00 a.m., the federal government officially shut down. The Republican-controlled House and Democrat-controlled Senate, haggling over the Affordable Care Act, were unable to agree on a new operating budget before the stopgap bill passed on March 28 expired.

Anarchy has yet to follow, but government services deemed nonessential have been indefinitely shut down, as well as federal employees. The list of victims includes (but is not limited to) the EPA, the National Park Service, The Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Labor, The Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and many veteran benefits. Services of agencies like the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration remain largely untouched.

While posing little safety risk to the American people, the consequences of the shutdown have been tangible. 800,000 "nonessential" workers have been sent home.

The shutdown marks the alarming continuation of the battle over the Affordable Care Act. More commonly known as Obamacare, the act was passed in 2010, but has since been delayed by questions of constitutionality and numerous Presidential delays. However, its Medicaid expansion and online marketplaces were launched on October 1, relying on mandatory federal funding unaffected by the shutdown. The law begins

providing insurance coverage on January 1, through private plans and Medicaid.

House Republicans early last week initially asked for a total defunding of Obamacare. Each succeeding bill, incrementally less extreme, has been rejected by the Senate, although delayed by the filibustering of Ted Cruz. The second GOP proposal restored minimal funding to the Act; the third asked for a one-year delay on implementation; a final, piecemeal version would have restored specific, popular parts of the government while leaving others in limbo.

On Saturday, September 28, White House spokesman Jay Carney issued the statement, "Republicans have tried and failed to defund or delay the health care law more than 40 times, and they know this demand is reckless and irresponsible."

Facing a hostile Senate and a Presidential veto, House Republicans are waging an ideological war to garner Tea Party support for local elections in 2014 at the expense of the national economy and greater public approval. Not all House Republicans have been so shortsighted, but moderate support led by the likes of John McCain (R-Arizona) has been unable to gain substantial traction.

As the Republican gap in the house widens, resolution to the crisis will rest in the hands of a few brave GOP members willing to swallow foolish pride and abandon the sinking ship of Obamacare opposition.

Do you like to write, take photos or work on graphic design?

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Contact Wells Hamilton, Sam Weien or Aaron Kaplan if interested



Juniors begin sliding, find process to be entirely familiar

By Owen Powell
Staff Relation to Andrew

Fall's come quick to the Junior class. First, I'd like to extend a big *Bell Ringer* congratulations to **Andrew Porter** for celebrating his 1-year anniversary of not making Mid-State Honors Choir. Huge accomplishment. Also, Porter managed to miss the Big Red's victory over BA because he was too busy GTA V'ing it up.

Sources are reporting that **Chatham Dobbs** was officially spotted in the Gulch. All of **George Hunt**'s exes live in China, not Texas. **Parks Ball** managed to ask, "Wait, am I getting the ball?" right before catching the game-tying two-point conversion against BA.

Will Singer and **Geoffrey**

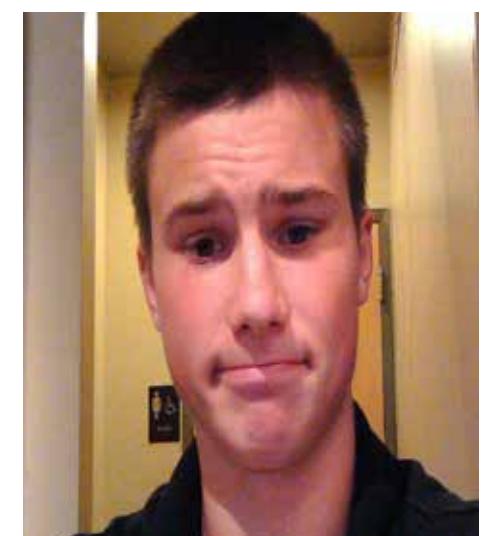
Holland now share something in common. Geoffrey didn't enjoy the slap he received, though (OH!). Congratulations to **Chad Mitchell** for getting a new girlfriend!!! A certain someone officially accepted Chad's request to replace a certain someone else by his side. Sources are unsure if they are kin to each other. Either way, GO CHAD! **John Hazen** informed me that he is visiting the wax figure display being shown at the Frist Center instead of going to Homecoming. Never mind, that was just a rumor. (Or was it?)

This just in: **Davis Luster** pulls. **Austin Rolfe** doesn't, except on the field during running plays. #HypeForLothers is making its way around. **Wren McFadden** has had about the roughest time of all, for

different reasons.

Jacob Green still hasn't said a word to me all year. **Harry Stewart** doesn't like my sense of humor. **William Snow** has won the clever award for his MEHAP team name. Ask Dr. Boyd if you are curious about William's award; he'll be more than happy to elaborate. **Wren and Holland** still don't get 8th period. TROY!!!! I LOVE TROY!!!!!! Well, sorry for being short. Roll Red, We beat BA, Chew Big Red Gum.

Juniors Rock Homecoming, and Hail Manziel.



YOU CANNOT RUN OWEN: *Resistance is futile*

Sophomores struggle for meaning, national merit

By Werner Bradshaw
Staff Enthusiast

Now that the school year is in full swing, the sophomore class seems to be doing just fine.

Connor Downey is tearing it up on the golf course as I write this article. **Connor** also has a new lady-friend, with whom he is apparently in love after seven weeks. She is actually from Chicago, no joke. **Connor**, to whom some like to refer as "Boy Wonder," is currently suffering from a serious condition called "Boy Disease."

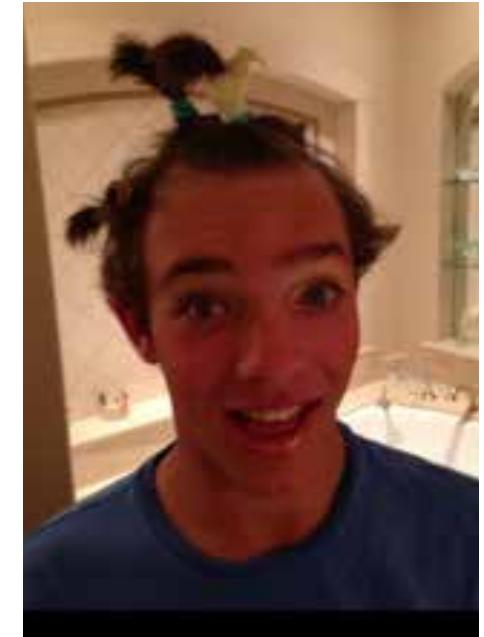
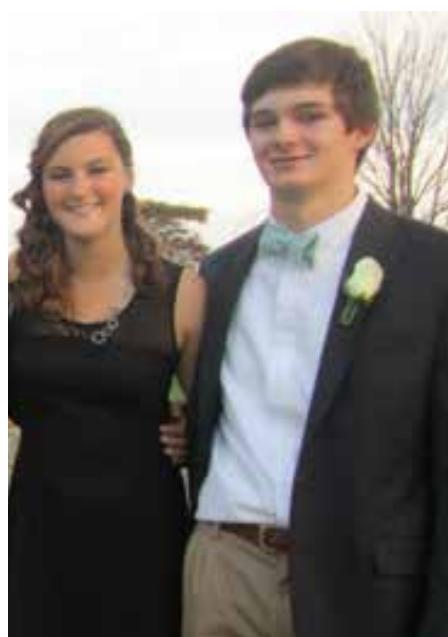
Connor is just one of many sophomores who is excelling in varsity sports. **D'On Cooper** is absolutely balling out on the football field along with **KP** "RT For a S/O" **Frazier**, **Taylor "Taco Bell"** **Asher**, **Gus Coleman**, and many others. I have also heard that **Robert**

Dedman and **Cam Surry** are among many that are making a difference for the Cross Country team this year.

Switching gears, let's talk about **Jack Malone**. The kid is doing great things on the ice, in the deer stand (t-minus 3 days!!) and in the classroom. We recently learned that he is superior to the infamous Shmoop. Whatever that means, we know it is good and that **Jack** is off to a great start this year.

I have been hearing reports that **Davis Cavallo** is really chill and that he does rowing. Additionally, I have heard that he has been tearing it up on the Twitter world. #swag.

Well, that's about all that has been going on in the Sophomore world. If you ever have any questions about the Class of 2016, philosophy or literally anything else, just ask **YAAvin Alwis**.



SOURCES STILL DEBATING WHETHER OR NOT SOPHOMORES ARE AFRAID OF GIRLS: *Experts remain divided*

Freshmen discontent with mediocrity, pluck the day

By Peter Taylor
Staff Quadrangle Patron

Before we get to our scheduled programming, first a public service announcement from **Drew Powell**: Please mind the gap when boarding the Wayne-Train.

When we last left off, our grizzled eighth grade veterans were starting the transition to high school. This transition has gone very well in some ways, but not so well in many others. For the sake of humor, we'll focus on the negative.

As our Freshmen were preparing for their first Homecoming Dance, they also faced the awkward prospect of snagging a date. Freshmen fall into four camps concerning the courting of females: that very small camp of boys with girlfriends (ahem **Will Peters** ahem), the sizeable camp of boys asking the girls they have been friends with for years, the likewise sizeable camp of boys asking the girls they like and want to, in the words

of **Asher Curnutte**, "step it up" after homecoming, and the largest and most awkward camp of boys who just realized that they don't know any girls after going to an all-boys school and have to get their friends with dates to set them up with their dates' friends. With whatever method they choose to acquire a date, whether it is texting them, asking them at a football game, or calling them using **Drew Davis**'s phone when they are in another team's cross country bus at a rained out JV meet as **Christian Palm** did, the homecoming didn't prove nearly as fun as we all thought it would be. Who knew?

The transition has been less smooth in the world of academics. For those in Dr. Batten's English I (Honors) classes, the corrections on their paragraphs have been quite harsh, especially for **Chris Owen**, who swears that his grades are dropping because Dr. Batten just doesn't like him. It has also been strange when he confuses **Richard White** and **Peter Taylor**, and

when he admits that he just figured out that there are **Peters** twins. Mr. Calico's class has been an unexpected challenge for many: everybody states that they find the class quite novice, but no one but **Jack Brandes** seems to be doing well. **Andrew Duffey** has also found French I to be quite a challenge: he is unsure how to say "French" in French. If only we had some of Monsieur West's "super sauce." I've also heard rumors from **Alden Ferguson** that Ancient Medieval History is quite a rigorous course, but I wouldn't know (#wasteofaclass).

In the land of athletics, many of our young athletes are doing all right. **Ty Chandler** scores about half of the varsity team's touchdowns every game. **Colin Ragsdale** remains somewhat overshadowed by the twins despite his incredible skill in the sport of cross country. **Boaz Kelner** plays hockey now. And for those who have managed to escape most sports: well, in the words of Vivek Surti, these are "Master Debaters." Oh yeah, **Hudson Dobbs**. I think he

swims or something, but he wasn't mentioned in the last article so I promised I'd stick him in here this time.

This year marks the first year where our class has a true leadership element. **Will Hoffman** was elected President by the football team et al., while **Jake Evans** won Vice President in a very close race with **Cole Thornton**. **Wyeth Patton** will handle the dough of the Freshman class as Treasurer, and **Vincent Zhang** will lead our class's recycling blitz and class Secretary duties. Speaking of recycling blitzes, why do we have to do them during break? Does anyone ever have a break at this school that's actually a break? Class officers, we humble members of the Freshman class look to you to right this wrong and give us the cramming time we oh so desperately need.

Maybe we should all just quit. Not much good has been done as of yet by the Freshman class, and I'm not even sure if we're capable of going beyond as we've been told we can. If we decide to push it forward as a class, then we'll see what we've done in the next installment of the Freshman News.

Seniors blinded by the light, revved up for fall

By Wells Hamilton
The Wizest Wizard

The weather is cooling down as the Senior class manages to stay just as chill as ever. Even under the pressure of the day-to-day grind, the kings of the campus “resil” through all adversity.

The fall truly began with the return of the activity fair. Eager Seniors managed to bring a plethora of new clubs to the Hill. **Kalyan “K-Chad” Chadalallavvadla**, as founding President-in-Chief-Commanding-Seargent -at-Arms of the Science Outreach Club, plans to bring the wonders of science to the far reaches of rural Williamson County.

Meanwhile, the Heavyweight Beef between **Davis “Single-Payer Healthcare” Lovvorn** and **Clark “Good Good” Hooks** has managed to spread across all aspects of extracurricular activity, infecting nearly every organization officer’s election. “Yeah, I was pretty surprised when they showed up to French Club,” says **Ben “Southern Gentleman” Yahnian**. “I really think Clark would have been elected if he had been able to communicate in anything besides dated, early 2000’s slang.” Luckily, “Trill” has officially been used by Davis, and thus played out as a word in the English language. Meanwhile, **Adam “Point Counter-Point” Biesman** used the distracting Beef to single-handedly commandeer every single service project, including Biesman’s latest “Antfarms for Algeria” initiative.

Fall has also brought a rush of EDM to the Senior class. **Coleman “Aviici” Sorenson** led the revolution, usurping **Houston “Chocolate Éclair” Morris**’s groundbreaking hit “Royale with Cheese” as the best use of Abelton on a Macbook. The Bell Ringer caught up with local EDM expert **Nick “Jack Thompson” Trogdon** to get his opinion on the revolution. “Yeah, it’s pretty good, but it’s no Skrill.” The Bluegrass Club has come out with an

official statement condemning everything that wasn’t written by Old Crow Medicine Show. “I mean, it doesn’t even have banjo,” says **Harrison “Little Lion Man” Davies**. Meanwhile, **Brandon “Don’t Tread On Me” Carpenter** washes and washes but is still unclean from Dayglow.

It really wouldn’t be the Senior Class News if we didn’t at least mention college. Recently, Mr. Pruitt’s entire 5th period Biology class has applied early action to the University of Auburn. **Ben “Noooooo” Chen** was quoted saying “War Eagle” before instantaneously setting the Auburn logo as the background to every computer in the school. **Tristan “Phagocytosis” Chari**, however, broke with the pack and decided to pursue a LARPing Scholarship at Welch College.

In life (football) news, MBA’s offensive line still refuses to be intimidated, with **DJ “Play Dirty” Mott** trumping the Train Horn in a recent, highly publicized scream off. **John “Super Senior” Wheeler** responded, “I honestly felt that the Jolly Roger would win, but it looks like it was just bringing up the rear (compared to DJ’s wookie call).” Meanwhile, **Bill “Same Love” Johnson** refuses to be stopped in his fantasy league, and also refuses to stop talking about his fantasy league.

How about those pep rallies though??? Following his massive choke, **John “Spaghetti on his Sweater” Yoder** retreated back across 8 Mile to try and hone his skills. **Clay “Candy Crush” Whitson** stomped **James “Gilbert” Matthews** into the ground in the old Werner Bradshaw classic. **Tucker “Roasting Steve” Voges** recently employed a small army of microbe slaves with the threat that he would call them up to do the gallon challenge or to dance with a cheerleader.

But it’s not all smooth sailing for the Class of 2014. Many of us have our noses to the grindstone to come home with the glory. **Harrison “90 Degree Jawline”**

Davis has recently started his paper on next year’s All-School Read. **Wilson “My Name Has Never Been in the Newspaper” Hays** continues his work towards solving the Goldbach conjecture and hopes to finish his paper before the end of the year. **Wes**

“UNC” Duke continues to baffle over the philosophical implications of what the fox says. What does the fox say, Wes?

That’s it for now, boys. Good luck with that Common App and, as always, Roll Red.



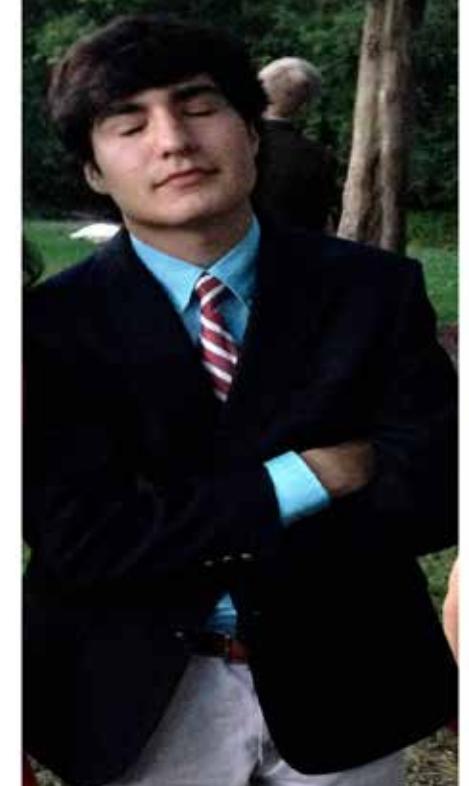
ARE YOU ELITE?????: If you have to ask, it's definitely a no



THE TWO T'S COME TOGETHER FOR BROTHERHOOD AND CULTURE: Quad explodes with classiness



ALL HAIL THE CROWN AND LONG LIVE THE KING: Bill Johnson enjoys the perks of fantasy glory, Barrs still upset



BEN YAHNIAN REACTS TO MY NEWS ARTICLE: Horribly unimpressed

PSAT CUTOFFS

Is there any method to predicting the madness?

By Ben Barton

Resident Concerned Parent

Every year, 1,551,095 students take the PSAT for a chance to become National Merit Semifinalists, who constitute about the top 1% of test takers in each state. But what causes these state cutoffs to vacillate up or down? What direction are these scores generally heading? How can you predict the state cutoff for a specific year? These are questions that we must seek to answer.

First, let's start with various trends affecting the nation as a whole:

No Child Left Behind: During the Bush administration, No Child Left Behind was a program implemented to improve the nation's public schools. Part of this program involved creating benchmarks and measures to quantify the (hopeful) improvement of the educational system. One of these measures was that PSAT participation proliferated among public schools. Thus, more schools and more people are taking the PSAT, causing PSAT scores to go down and more Semifinalists to be selected, as more people who haven't taken the PSAT are forced to take it.

Increasing Test Prep: If you have talked to anyone in the preceding generation, you will find out that standardized test prep is a fairly new invention. Companies such as the Princeton Review and Kaplan sell standardized test textbooks and tutoring services to thousands of high school students.

Addition of Writing Section: Until fairly recently, there was no writing section on

PSAT/NMSQT® 2010-2011 COLLEGE-BOUND HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS
TENNESSEE

TABLE 6: PSAT/NMSQT® SCORES - CRITICAL READING

TOTAL GROUP	SOUTH		TENNESSEE	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
75-80	13,808	0.9	2,595	0.9
	192	1.4		

PSAT/NMSQT® 2011-2012 COLLEGE-BOUND HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS
TENNESSEE

TABLE 6: PSAT/NMSQT® SCORES - CRITICAL READING

TOTAL GROUP	SOUTH		TENNESSEE	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
75-80	11,017	0.7	1,788	0.7
	127	0.8		

PSAT/NMSQT® 2012-2013 COLLEGE-BOUND HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS
TENNESSEE

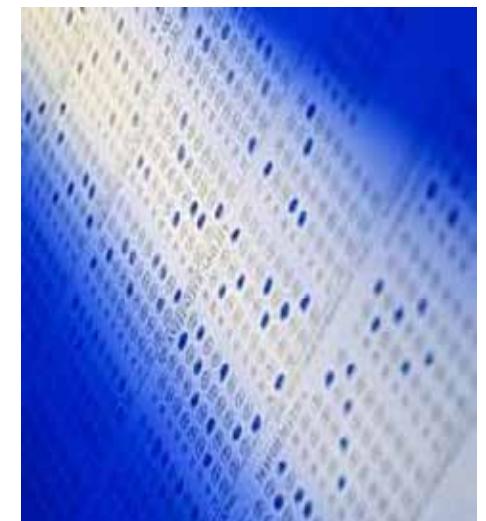
TABLE 6: PSAT/NMSQT® SCORES - CRITICAL READING

TOTAL GROUP	SOUTH		TENNESSEE	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
75-80	16,622	1.1	2,750	1.0
	197	1.2		

THE NUMBERS DON'T LIE (OR DO THEY?): *The Number of National Merit Scholars fluctuates significantly from year to year*

the SAT or PSAT. In the past, the reading score was just doubled to calculate the score index out of 240. However, this third section has consistently a lower mean score than either of the other two sections, which is probably one of the more significant forces which has driven down NMSF cutoffs in the last ten or so years.

But trends do very little for someone wanting to predict a NMSF cutoff in a particular year. What is the best way to predict what the NMSF cutoff will be in a particular year? Sometime in late summer, the College Board will release score summaries of each state. These summaries bear a feature which, upon examination, is very helpful in predicting a range in which the NMSF cutoff will be



MAMA ALWAYS SAID LIFE WAS LIKE A SCANTRON SHEET: You can't just draw diagonal lines and hope to get ahead

in a given year. The mean scores are not very helpful. Believe it or not, Tennessee students have a very high mean PSAT score compared to most states, but usually have NMSF cutoffs on the lower end of the spectrum. This phenomenon occurs because determining the top 1% of scorers is about how "top heavy" a state is, and has little to do with what those outside of this small group scored. Thus, the percent of people who scored in the 80-75 range in each section is very helpful, because this shows how top heavy a state is. An example of this can be seen in the charts to the left. Tennessee had fewer scorers in the 80-75 range this year than it did two years ago (NMSF cutoff 214) and more than it had last year (NMSF cutoff 210). The cutoff in Tennessee this year was 212, which falls in this range. That is the best method for estimating whether or not the NMSF cutoff will increase or decrease.

Congratulations to Class of 2014's 13 National Merit Semifinalists!



NAMES FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: (Top) Ferriss Bailey, Ben Barton, Ben Chen, Andrew Dupuis, Tarun Mallipeddi, Jordan Pugh, (Bottom) Ross Blackwell, Kalyan Chadalavada, John Higham, Rem Houghton, Rahul Ramanna



CLASS
OF
2015???



WOW, SO FREEDOM: Campus political heavyweights Davis Lovvorn and Brandon Carpenter square off against Mr. Hamrick in fierce debate

Up in the Clubs

The Bell Ringer investigates the birth of new clubs on campus

By Aaron Kaplan
Associate Editor

A new school year means a variety of new student clubs. Current first-year clubs include the Current Events Club, Tea Party Club, Bluegrass Club, Science Outreach Club and Broadcasting Club.

First, the Current Events Club is led by senior Adam Biesman and junior Kang Huh and sponsored by Dr. Boyd. The goal of the club is to discuss recent events and controversial topics as well as to compete in the WorldQuest competition, which sends finalists from the local competitions to compete nationally in Washington, D.C. Adam says that he "cannot wait to hear people defend policies that they do not support purely for the sake of understanding the other side." In founding the club, Adam was inspired by the roundtable discussions he enjoyed in South Africa at the International Symposium last spring.

The Tea Party Club is, let's say, a little less open to a variety of opinions. In attempt to establish their "own conservative leadership at MBA," seniors Davis Lovvorn and Brandon Carpenter took to establishing this club with the faculty sponsorship of Col. Sharbel. They hope to conduct one meeting every quarter to discuss applicable conservative issues and are looking to bring in guest speakers to talk to club members throughout the year. While the Tea Party Club is its own entity, different from the Young Republicans Club, Davis claims that it "recognizes that a major issue among conservatives is party fragmentation" and therefore will promote collaboration and dual-membership.

A new musical presence on

campus will take the form of the Bluegrass Club. Led by seniors Harrison Davies and Kip Worthington, the club hopes to dispel the notion that bluegrass is "hillbilly" music. The club wants to demonstrate bluegrass' "wide range of material" and the ease with which it can be played by hosting jam sessions for anyone interested. Harrison was introduced to bluegrass by his uncle and has been playing the banjo

since his Freshman year.

Scientific research is more relevant than ever, with alum Adam Bowman proving to us that dedication to and curiosity about a topic can be significant on a national and international scale. In starting the Science Outreach Club this year, senior Kalyan Chadalavada hopes to inspire an interest in scientific research throughout the student body.



BANJO BOYS BRING THE TWANG BACK TO HILL: New Bluegrass Club to bring East Tennessee down off the mountaintops

After his summer research at Vanderbilt, Kalyan wants "other students [who are interested] to be aware of the opportunities for research across the country." Not only does the club aim to promote awareness; it also plans to help interested students make the connection and actually become involved in their respective fields of interest. The club will additionally focus on competition-inspired research, such as that done by Bowman to earn third place in the Intel Science Talent Search last year.

The Broadcasting Club, established this year by junior Aaron Kaplan, will offer students the opportunity to participate in online broadcasts of school athletic and non-athletic events. The hope is that this will be the start of a formal network of broadcasting on the Hill. Football and basketball have been streamed live online regularly in past years, and just last year, soccer, baseball and lacrosse were added officially to the mix. Students will be able to film, produce, and serve as commentators in live productions for sports of their choosing and for school-wide events such as Endada.

While neither the Business Club nor the Stock Market Club are brand new, they are starting a new joint project. With Ben Barton at the helm, different groups of seniors will manage specifically-categorized stock portfolios with which students can hypothetically choose to invest. Stock categories include finance and technology, among others. The stock market club recently received a large sum of money with which to invest in the stock market and hopefully turn some sort of profit.

There are always exciting ways for students to get involved around campus and the community. If you are interested in any of these new clubs, please contact the respective club leaders, who will be glad to have you join. As demonstrated by the number of new clubs each year, there is always space on the Hill for new ideas and activities.

Is THIS REAL LIFE? OR JUST FANTASY FOOTBALL 2013?

By: Nolan Spear
Asst. Features Editor

Well, gentlemen, it's that time of year again—the time for last-minute trades, overanalyzing statistics, and last-minute lineup decisions. It's fantasy football time, and this season promises to be a great one. With young, promising stars like Andrew Luck, Doug Martin, and Robert Griffin III competing with old guns like Peyton Manning and Tom Brady, the level of talent in the league is at an all-time high, and no one stands to benefit more from it than the fantasy players of today.

Now enough with the formalities. Let's get down to business. The *Bell Ringer* has prepared its positional rankings and is ready to release them to the world.

Quarterback:

- Jake Locker, Tennessee Titans:** The definition of man-animal. Jake Locker really doesn't care what you have to say. The most accurate quarterback in the game, with the superb ability to make the easiest passes look difficult, he defies gravity. Full of athleticism, Jake once challenged Tim Tebow to a race, beating him easily while still finding time to proclaim inspiring pump-up quotes such as, "Just block for me, C.J. Don't bother taking the handoff" or "Was Kenny really open?" while in mid-sprint. Every Titans fan should believe in Boy Jake. We've got a bright future with him at the helm. Number one QB spot, without a doubt.
- Aaron "The Baddest Man on the Planet" Rodgers, Green Bay Packers:** This offseason, ESPN's colorful analyst Stephen A. Smith, whose every statement is 100% accurate, declared Aaron Rodgers to be one thing and one thing only—"A BAAAAAAAAAAAAAAD MAN." Whether he was referring to his overall godliness on the football field or his seemingly neverending string of 40-point games in fantasy, we won't know, but the facts are still there: you cannot touch Rodgers. It was once said

that he could throw a football through the eye of a needle. He tried, succeeded, and shook it off by discount-double-checking his way through a wheel of cheese. Draft him at that number two overall QB spot, behind the Tennessee Tornado.

- Peyton "Neck Surgery?" Manning, Denver Broncos:** Over the summer, someone asked Peyton Manning if he considered Eli "Interception" Manning, his little brother, superior to him. Peyton took a step back, paused, and simply said, "Wipe the windshield, elbow your brother, flick the booger," then went out and sped through that 6.4-second 40-yard dash. Draft Peyton at that third QB slot if you want pure fundamentals, overall swag, and the ability to never age. #legend

Running Back:

- Adrian "Alien" Peterson, Minnesota Vikings:** Draft AP at that number one slot, and be hyped about it. A walking touchdown, he simply can't be tackled by one man, or two, or really even three. You can put AP down for at least 1,800 yards, probably more...probably a lot more. He could find a way to score while on his bye week this season. We'll keep you updated.
- Marshawn "Darren Sharper!!!" Lynch, Seattle Seahawks:** Ask the New Orleans Saints 2009-2010 defensive starters what happens when you mess with "Beast Mode." It has been said that this past May, Marshawn Lynch deadlifted the entire city of Seattle and promptly lifted it over onto his back. Marshawn Lynch doesn't disappear in games—he is the game. He's our number two back for a reason, for putting this beast at #1 would simply be too disrespectful to All Day Peterson.
- Jackie "The Ram" Battle, Tennessee Titans:** Our sleeper pick of the year, you can't tackle The Ram. He is known for his ability to randomly appear in games for random AFC teams and amass lots of yardage and touchdowns. That being said, we're fully expecting a thirty-touchdown year for Big Jackie.

Because really, he's not in anyone's scouting report, and we know how the Titans love to take people by surprise (the Randy Moss signing, drafting Kendall Wright, actually being in the Peyton Manning sweepstakes, etc.). You just watch, in one of those games against the Jaguars (being watched by about four people), J-Batt will score at least 4 touchdowns. Nothing works more than the element of surprise. Nothing.

Wide Receiver:

- Calvin Johnson, Detroit Lions:** Despite his playing for the second Vince Young (have you seen that sidearm throw?), Matthew Stafford, and the fact that he was tackled at the 1-yard line six times last year, he's still the number one wide receiver in fantasy and worthy of that first-round draft spot. It's been said that he eats his dinner out of his hands, because plates are simply too small. There's nobody better. #god
- Kenny Britt, Tennessee Titans:** He is a pure mix of dropped passes and a ridiculous size-speed combination, but you know how good Kenny Britt is. One may say his stats don't match this ranking, but we here at the *Bell Ringer* know the real "K-Balla." The game's just too easy for him, so he doesn't always try his hardest, but there's no doubt he'll score the points this year. Everyone's going to be looking at CJ2K and that new O-line, leaving Kenny open on those deep sideline fades. Will he drop most of them? Probably, but you can't deny talent, swag, and that Titans spirit. Draft him, and wait for that breakout game, like most Titans fans have been doing for the past 5 years.
- AJ "The Franchise" Green, Cincinnati Bengals:** Can you name another player on the Bengals besides AJ? Probably not. His talent is undeniable. He's in the top-5 most talented players in the league and is the master of catching Andy Dalton's patented underthrown deep passes. Nobody makes the plays like this guy, and he's worthy of a pick in the first 3 rounds.

Tight Ends

- Jimmy "I Can Dunk" Graham, New Orleans Saints:** Basically a wide receiver, Jimmy Graham is known for almost never being in double coverage in the end zone and, with that 40-inch vertical and 6'9" frame, he defines "snag city." He can carry your team, as Drew Brees is always looking for him. We will go as far as to say that he's worthy of an second-round pick, because you know he won't disappoint.

- Rob "I Love Red Bull" Gronkowski, New England Patriots:** With the offseason departure of former fantasy god Aaron Hernandez (insert prison joke here), Robbie G looks to defy all injury setbacks and step up his game to the next level. Since the New England Patriots will likely be starting a bum by Week 3, he might always be in double coverage, and that drops him in the rankings a bit. But knowing Gronk, he'll find his ways to score, because that's just what he does. The NFL's "master of the pre-game," nobody spends more time scoring while "injured," parties harder, or dominates the TE position than "Yo soy fiesta." Take him high and bask in his results.



Dr. Boyd, AKA ???

TOP PICKS: ???

**"WHY ARE YOU
ASKING ABOUT MY
FANTASIES?"**



Mr. Hamrick , AKA: Blood on the Tracks

TOP PICKS: Adrian Peterson, Peyton Manning, Calvin Johnson

**"Running Back Depth, Running Back Depth, and more
Running Back Depth"**



Davis Lovvorn, AKA :Spongebob's Pals

TOP PICKS: Peyton Manning, Julio Jones, Darren Sproles

**"THERE IS NO BETTER FANTASY TEAM
FANTASY-WISE"**



**"CLEARLY,
MY STRATEGY
HAS NOT
WORKED OUT
THUS FAR."**

Mr. Davidson, AKA Team Davidson

TOP PICKS: Drew Brees, Frank Gore, Trent Richardson

MLB POST-SEASON WRAP UP

Baseball heads into the playoffs

By Wesley Jenkins
Staff Writer

So with the regular season over and the wild card tiebreaker done, the MLB playoffs are finally underway. For once the Pirates and the Indians are playing in October, while the Yankees are already hitting the tees. So let the games begin. Happy October, everyone.

Cle/Tam vs. Boston

While the feel-good story here is that Cleveland went from 94 losses to the playoffs, there is no way they can beat Boston. Even if they do find a way to get past Tampa in the one game Wild Card coin flip, Boston's sluggers will power them past a scrappy Cleveland team in a 5 game series.

Detroit vs. Oakland

With Verlander and Scherzer leading

the Detroit staff and Fielder and Cabrera holding down the lineup, the Tigers look like the clear favorite in this series. But the Tigers are limping into the playoffs after being no-hit by the Marlins, and the A's have been solid all year, so expect the A's to take this series.

Cin/Pit vs. St. Louis

St. Louis has owned both of these teams for the last three or four years and there is no reason to expect that to end now. The Cardinals always find a way to go deep in the postseason with very few big names. Cardinals in 4.

LA Dodgers vs. Atlanta

The Dodgers are storming hard into the postseason on the back of super rookie Yasiel Puig and the soon-to-be Cy Young winner Clayton Kershaw. After winning 42 of 50 games earlier in the season, the Dodgers look like the best team in the



league. Combine that with Atlanta's recent struggles, the Dodgers win in 4.

Boston vs. Oakland – Boston in 5

LA Dodgers vs. St. Louis – LA in 7

World Series

LA Dodgers vs. Boston – Dodgers in 6

"Never confuse a single defeat with a final defeat"

"Vitality shows in not only the ability to persist but the ability to start over."

"You don't write because you want to say something, you write because you have something to say."

Fitzgerald Says, Submit to Archives!

Hockey team gears up for fantastic season

By Anthony Swenson
Sports Editor

Although the football and cross country teams have been training and working hard since the beginning of the summer, the MBA Hockey team has been preparing for the upcoming season for an equal amount of time. Beginning the second season with both a Varsity and a JV team, the hockey program has fifty active skaters total, including twenty Varsity players, twenty JV players, and ten players from the Junior School who are playing for local travel and house league teams. The Varsity team won the Henry Hine Cup in the 2012-2013 season and is looking to repeat as Division Champions once again.

Although several major contributors from the Class of 2013 graduated, the team is optimistic on its chances at a repeat. The squad hopes to replace the graduated skaters with several JV players from the previous season, including Ethan Mowery ('16), Sam Smith ('16), Connor Oman ('16), Jackson Garey ('15), and David Bright ('15) just to name a few. None of these players had any prior experience in hockey before joining the JV team in 2012.

With a chance to develop in a

safe, non-checking league, the program allows players who discovered the game later in life to have a chance to play hockey. Coach Deutsch remarks, "Until we formed a JV team, it was unheard of for someone to play hockey at the high school level unless they had played since an early age. Now, our focus is on attracting good athletes who are committed to learn the most important skill: skating!" Now sporting one of the largest rosters in the program's history, this method of attracting players appears to be working.

Coach Deutsch also stresses the importance on life off the ice. He tells *The Bell Ringer*, "We have an emphasis on pre-season conditioning and community service, such as 'Best Buddies' and 'Last Minute Toy Store.' I encourage players to find a *life balance* with their family, academic, and athletic obligations."

The future looks bright for Big Red Hockey with such a large roster and enthusiastic coaching. As Coach Deutsch says, "It's always a good day for hockey!"

MBA Microbe plays in World Series

By Davis Lovvorn
Staff Little-Leaguer-at-Heart

From August 15 to August 25, one lucky MBA 7th grader was not experiencing the pain and suffering that comes with an MBA education. Instead, Blake Kirchenbauer was playing baseball in front of millions of television viewers in the Little League World Series. Blake was gracious enough to sit down with *The Bell Ringer* and share some of his experiences.

Blake played second base for his team but came off the bench. When asked if that was a problem for him, he replied, "It didn't really affect me. Nobody was better than anybody else. It was an even playing field."

Blake's team did not have an easy path to Williamsport, the site of the Little League World Series.

"Every tournament that we go through, we will always lose the first game," said the Little Leaguer. Blake's team from the South Nashville Little League lost their first game to a team from Virginia, 3-1, but never faltered after the first stumble. They rolled through the rest of the tournament, beating a team from Florida in the semifinals and then that same Virginia team in the regional final after coming from behind yet again.

Their travels to Williamsport were perhaps more difficult than the regional tournament. After they won the championship, the team had a 2 a.m. bus ride to Atlanta, one hour away from

the site of their regional tournament in Warner Robins, GA. Upon arrival at the airport, the team had to wait another hour to check their plane tickets because nobody was attending the ticket station. The team's 6:45 a.m. flight was eventually cancelled due to technical malfunctions. Finally, the team's 2 p.m. flight landed in Philadelphia, a three-hour bus ride from Williamsport. Somehow, more delays caused the team to finally arrive at the Little League World Series at 11:30 p.m.

Luckily, not all misfortune arose from these misadventures. Blake fondly recalled the kindness demonstrated by the team from Australia, who loaned the Tennessee team gloves while their baggage was still in limbo. His team was able to return the favor. "We repaid them by giving them signed hockey pucks from the Predators."

Also, Blake was selected to take part in "Baseball Building Blocks," a TV short that aired with Blake demonstrating special drills led by Nomar Garciaparra, the former Boston Red Sox shortstop. "Nomar's pretty awesome," he said. "They teach plays such as fielding short hops and teach you the proper way to do it."

Blake also gave the scoop on the other teams and their players. "I'm not going to comment on a couple of the teams," he slyly noted. He also explained details about the international teams. "How we really interacted was through the game room," he commented. "They let kids play ping pong late at night,

Rifle team continues record as completely unstoppable

By Brandon Carpenter
Staff Writer

Coming off three state championship seasons in a row, the Big Red Rifles are off to another excellent start. With a very strong roster, MBA placed 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th in the MBA Invitational Kickoff. A few weeks later, the top six shooters traveled to Shelby County, Kentucky, to renew the border war with another nationally-ranked team



RIFLERY TEAM HOPES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS: Making top shots



DAVIS AND KIRCHENBAUER: Bros for life
his team, an RBI double and a two-out, two-strike base hit in the bottom of the last inning while his team was down by one run in the elimination game. He spoke about his last hit and humbly downplayed his clutch moment. "I have to be honest with myself," he said. "I watched the replay of that game, and I hit the ball horribly. What you can't tell on TV is how hard balls are hit. If it were a regular third baseman, he would have thrown me out." After being prompted repeatedly to praise his hit, Blake continually refused to do so.

Kirchenbauer represented MBA exceptionally well with his actions both on and off the field. Quiet and humble, Blake exemplifies the "gentleman, scholar, athlete" credo of MBA. The MBA community looks forward to his successes in the future.

Blake notched two key hits for



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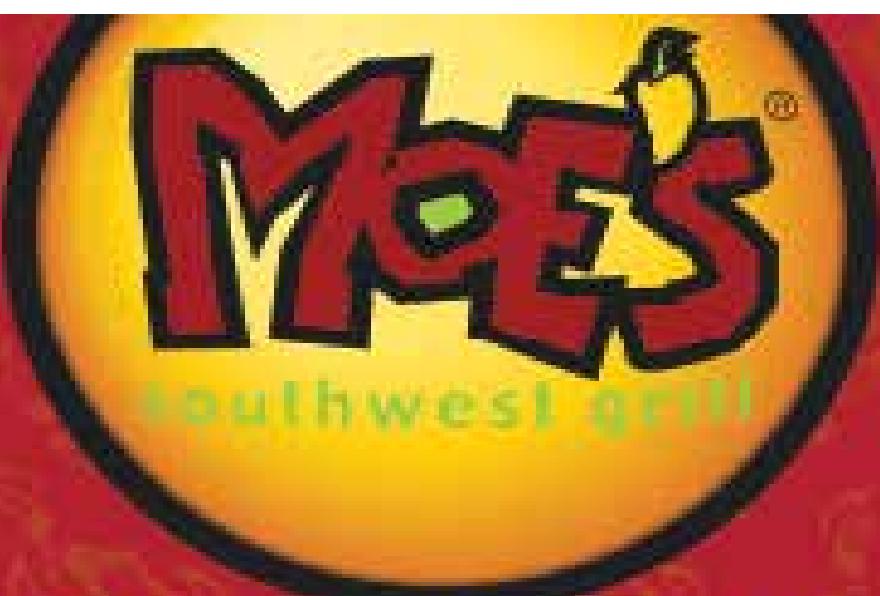
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The Battle of Burrito: A Tale of Two Chains



5.5 KANGS OUT OF 10:
Qdoba comes away with the victory

By Kang Huh
Staff Writer

Since 1995, there's been a clash between two fast food giants: Chipotle and Qdoba (kew-doh-bə). Both restaurants feature a unique take on the concept of fast food. Whereas chains like McDonalds and Wendy's feature the classic, greasy hamburger, these chains feature decidedly healthier options.

Dubbed "Fresh-Mex," this genre of fast food cookery has been popularized in Colorado by Chipotle's Steve Ells and Qdoba's Anthony Miller. With such similar types of food, though, the question still looms: which one is better?

In order to judge the two restaurants properly, we have to consider a few things: menu, ingredients, and flavor.

In terms of the menu, Qdoba definitely has the upper hand in this clash. Whereas Chipotle offers the standard burrito, burrito bowl, chips and “guac,” and taco, Qdoba’s menu features the very same items, yet with the addition

of taco salads, quesadillas, and nacho plates. With such a diversity of items on Qdoba's menu, it would be hard to find yourself restricted.

If you've ever been to Qdoba or Chipotle, you've probably noticed the line of ingredients from which your burrito is constructed. That being said, Qdoba and Chipotle essentially serve the same variety of components from which you can choose. Chipotle's ingredient list, offering a selection of four meats—steak, chicken, carnitas, and barbacoa—is definitely more meat-centric than Qdoba's. Qdoba, on the other hand, gives you a greater selection of salsas by offering six different types of salsas and one seasonal salsa, each involving a distinct level of heat.

The most important of the three criteria is definitely flavor. This aspect of the age-old battle has been the source of heated Internet feuds and blog posts aplenty. To make the judging process fair, I ordered the same burrito from each restaurant (on different days, of course): a flour tortilla filled with

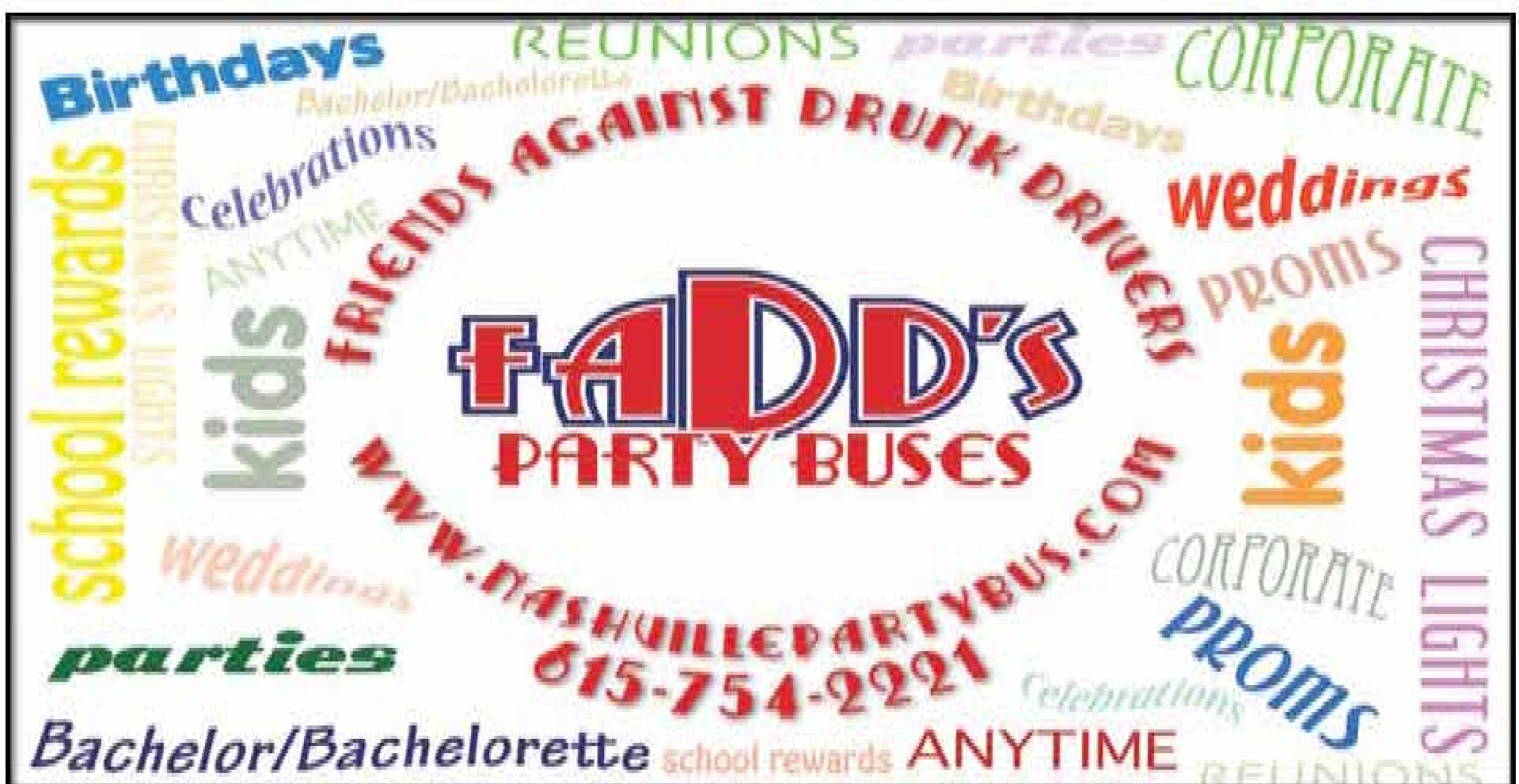
4 KANGS OUT OF 10: *Chipotle trails the competition by a narrow margin in this head-to-head Tex-Mex Matchup*



chicken, corn, cheese, black beans, sour cream, cilantro-lime rice, and lettuce. The corn, cheese, beans, sour cream, rice, and lettuce were essentially the same. The corn was sweet and plentiful—a nice contrast to the saltiness of the cheese and the tartness of the sour cream. Essentially, both burritos throw so many flavors at you simultaneously that you would be satisfied with either one.

In the end, though, I find myself preferring Qdoba to Chipotle. Qdoba's chicken is simply better seasoned than Chiptole's, and really does make a difference in differentiating the flavors of the burritos overall. Eating Chipotle's chicken was somewhat strange; I knew it was there, but I couldn't really taste it as well as I could Qdoba's. That being said, many netizens that have taken to online forums have stated that Chipotle's specialty meats (carnitas and barbacoa) trounce those of Qdoba's. Still, a clear-cut comparison can't be drawn merely because Qdoba doesn't offer all the same meats.

Despite the fact that Qdoba has



BUDDY GUY TAKES BACK THE STAGE

By Peter Taylor
Staff Writer

Eric Clapton has called Buddy Guy "without a doubt the best guitar player alive," and when I listen to his classic "Stone Crazy," I am inclined to agree. Buddy Guy is nothing less than a living legend, and one of the few blues greats left, along with B.B. King. Having seen them both, I can attest. Despite its notable flaws, *Rhythm and Blues* is a solid album in Buddy Guy's impressive discography, and a testament to his status as a master of the blues.

Strengths

My biggest expectation when I listened to this album was for the guitar playing to be as nasty, low down, and dirty as I have come to expect from Buddy, and boy, does he deliver. His riffs are interesting and unexpected, and his solos build and release tension in a method that can only be executed by a master. His playing is aggressive and pushy, always keeping the listener on his or her toes, wondering what he will do next. It also helps that his guitar tone is fantastic: it's got a much louder and more overdriven sound than his early records,

much like the late great Stevie Ray Vaughan, but nowhere close to the amount of drive that some harder rock guitar players have.

Throughout the record, Buddy Guy's singing is also superb. His voice is a rough-and-tumble blues vocal style like Muddy Waters, in contrast to B.B. King's smoother tones. It has the grit you'd expect from a good blues singer, and his quality has not diminished with age, (he's 77!) In fact, it may have done the opposite. Any comparison to any of his older records reveals little weakness or shortcomings in his voice.

Buddy's backing band is solid. They lay down the groove over which Buddy goes crazy, never faltering or failing to keep in good tempo or rhythm. His drummer's sense of beat is especially excellent.

The songs Buddy plays and sings on the record are good, even if they are standard blues fare. The entire album is mostly I-IV-V blues chord progressions, so it can get tedious after repeated listening, but most of the songs stand up well in their own right. "Best in Town," "Evil Twin" (a collaboration with Aerosmith's Joe Perry, Brad Whitford,

and Steven Tyler), and "I Could Die Happy" (Acoustic Blues guitar mixed with Buddy's signature electric) are the highlights.

Weaknesses

Rhythm and Blues's primary weakness is the record's production. Despite the high quality of musicianship from the band, the album does not really feel like an old school blues record. Many of the songs have "over the top" arrangements with far too many instruments cluttered in the mix. Whatever happened to the old school blues band: Vocals, Guitar, Bass, Drums, and maybe some Keys and a Harmonica every now and then.

Instead, the album features entirely overdone, muddy arrangements, including heavy B3 Hammond organs, choirs of female backup singers, and multiple guitars, just to name a few. Many of the arrangements are considerably "in your face," so to speak. In many ways, this can be a strength, especially in terms of the guitar sound. Yet the record misses the feel of a stripped-down blues band, where the only thing that matters is how well you play.

Though the jam with members

of Aerosmith on "Evil Twin" is groovy, many of the collaborations fall flat or appear out of place. The tunes involving blues singer Beth Hart and up-and-coming blues rock star Gary Clark Jr. have some cool moments, but neither manage to really ignite like they should, instead coming off as awkward jam sessions. The collaborations with Kid Rock and Keith Urban feel extremely out of place: what are an alternative rocker and a country star doing on a blues record?

The Verdict

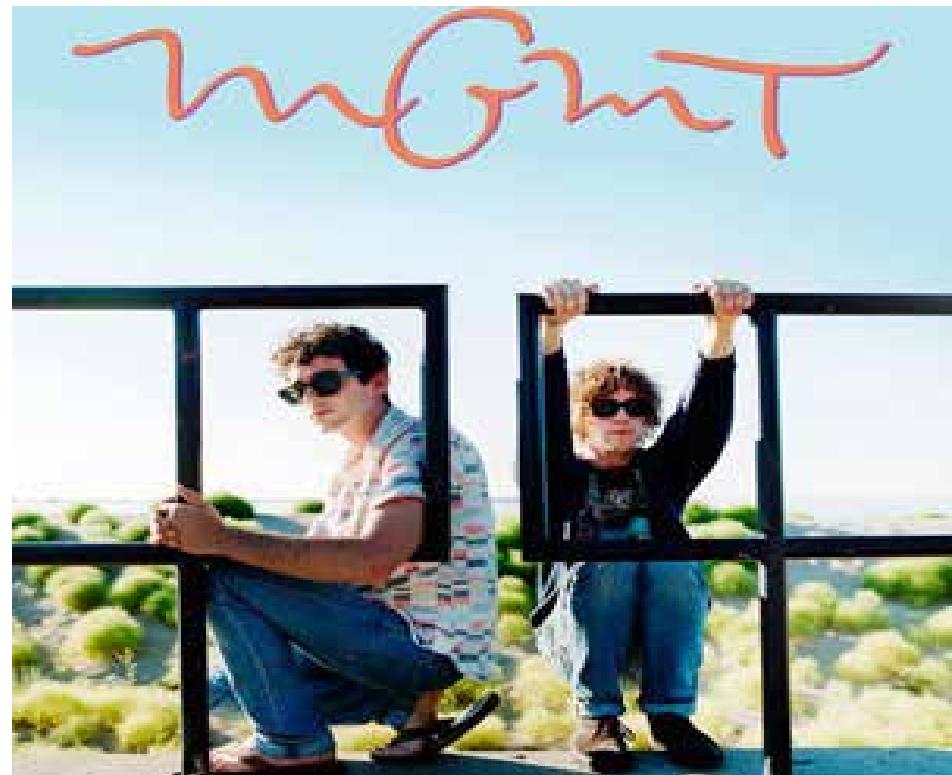
Buddy Guy first wowed everybody when he began to appear on Muddy Waters' Chess singles in the late fifties, and since then, he continues to amaze everyone with his guitar skills. The strength of his voice and his tunes have influenced scores of guitar players from Jimmy Page to John Mayer. Even if it never truly feels like an old school blues record, *Rhythm and Blues* retains Buddy Guy's position as a true legend in blues music.

Rating: 8.5 (out of 10)

Genre: Electric Blues; Chicago Blues; Blues Rock



BUDDY GUY
RHYTHM & BLUES



MGMT delivers its 3rd LP, almost oracularly spectacular

Graham Vines
Staff Writer

If you're coming to MGMT's self-titled third album in hopes of its being anything like their debut hit album *Oracular Spectacular* or their charming, surf-oriented sophomore LP, *Congratulations*, then you are in for a shock. *MGMT* is a departure from the synth-pop hits and well strung together tunes MGMT is known for, textured and condensed. This third LP is MGMT's attempt at making an album that takes more than one listen to fully understand—essentially a Modernist approach. This album clearly draws inspiration from artists like The Flaming Lips, Tame Impala, and Animal Collective.

The album is a chaotic success. The first half is what more people

are going to be drawn to, because it sounds like something MGMT would produce while still delving into their own weirdness and embracing it. It's the second half that separates this album from anything found in MGMT's discography (other than the notable instrumental track, "Lady Dada's Nightmare," off *Congratulations*.) The second half features songs like "A Good Sadness" and "An Orphan of Fortune" that use dirty synthesizers and loose drum beats to instill feelings of happy confusion and euphoric madness. Unfortunately, this process does not always work, as in tracks like "Astro-Mancy" that are so attentive to ambience and cluttered noises that it's difficult as a listener and avid follower of MGMT's career to understand the message they are trying to convey. Fortunately, this is the only qualm I have.

The rest of the LP is something I have come to appreciate more with each listen. The first three songs, "Alien Days," "Cool Song No. 2," and "Mystery Disease" invoke the side of MGMT that I have grown to love over the past years: their ability to surprise me. "Mystery Disease," for example, was first revealed in a live performance back in April and resembled a clear cut, deep space-rock track the likes of which we see with bands like Thee Oh Sees and Tame Impala. The track they released on the full album is more reverb-oriented and heavy on the side of bass drums. Finally, there are the tracks "Your Life is a Lie," a single released shortly before the album's release, "Plenty of Girls in the Sea," with a Beach Boys-esque sound, and a cover of Faine Jade's "Introspection." Each is somewhat repetitive, cheerful and upbeat. While the

rest of the album's lyrics are darker and abstract, the lyrics of these three tracks are when MGMT are at their most clever and humorous.

This album takes some getting used to, but it's well worth it once you get that *click* of finally understanding that the album doesn't need to be *Oracular Spectacular* 2 to be a great LP. There's no moment of "Siberian Breaks" on this record, but they've produced an album we will be listening to for a long time.

Favorite Tracks:

1. Mystery Disease
2. Cool Song No. 2
3. An Orphan of Fortune
4. Introspection
5. Alien Days
6. Plenty of Girls in the Sea

Pretty Lights maps the sun, NASA baffled

By Nick Trogdon
Staff Writer

Derek Vincent Smith, also known by his stage name “Pretty Lights,” is one of the most influential and revolutionary electronic artists of the past few years. The first time I heard Pretty Lights, I was blown away by the complicated compositions and layering that dwarfed other well-known laptop musicians such as Skrillex, Deadmau5, Avicii and many others. No other artist has captured the essence of electronic hip-hop quite like Smith, who masterfully uses old school rap samples with modern synth and rhythmic basslines.

Pretty Lights’ fourth studio album, *A Color Map of the Sun*, was a new step for the Colorado-based producer, who wanted to experiment with a new kind of album production. Before *Color Map of the Sun*, he had always used uncredited samples, so he had not been able to sell his albums commercially. Instead, he opted to put them on his website for free. With *Color Map of the Sun*, he recorded a companion album of completely original music from which to sample.

The album itself has an entirely different feel from any of the others that Smith has previously released. While his latest projects, such as his album *Passing By Behind Your Eyes*, have had a much more airy and bouncy electronic base, *Color Map* has an acoustic feel that gives it a much more unique and solid texture.

The world got a feel for what it would sound like when he released “So Bright” as a single back in 2012, a song that started with haunting female vocals and a distinctive, acoustic piano beat that sounded like a drunken widower slamming on a keyboard that brought a heavy sense of feeling to the track.

This use of emotion through acoustic sampling and distinctive, heavily filtered vocals are what make up the basis for *Color Map of the Sun*. It’s got basic Pretty Lights staples like “Let’s Get Busy,” “So Bright,” and “Around the Block” that have a new acoustic, glitchy explosion of sound while keeping with the original style of rhythmic bass and hip hop acoustic drumlines.

The first song, “Color of My Soul,” sets the tone for the whole album and has all the elements of the song list, including the use of sampling from Smith’s very own companion album, glitched-out female vocals, and of course a wavy electronic section that takes Pretty Lights back to his roots.

“Press Pause” has my favorite vocal sample of the entire album, starting out with a mellow cymbal line that slows you down after “Color of My Soul,” but keeps the track up and moving despite its lack of heavy synths.

“Around the Block,” a single he released prior to the full album, gave us a sort of New York “I’m on a train” kind of urban feel, bringing back the hip-hop roots that Pretty Lights fans have come to love.

After the first few songs, though, Smith goes completely off the beaten



path. The track I’m talking about is of course “Yellow Bird.” The first time I heard this song was at his all-night-long set at Bonnaroo, and it was instantly distinguishable from his other songs by its slow, melodic tempo combined with that sweet, sweet piano riff and angelic, airy vocal sample. While most of Pretty Lights’ songs are designed to get down to, “Yellow Bird” is meant to be experienced on a different level.

Another song that surprised me on this album was “Prophet.” The first time I listened to it I was driving down the road and I thought I’d somehow messed up the torrent and accidentally included some kind of European club artist. After checking, I realized it was in fact Smith, and it blew my mind how he could switch styles completely into a driving, dark electronic tempo that somehow changed mid-song into a bouncy, slamming synth based track that reminded me of the song that played from the German car in “Super Troopers.”

Getting back on the more traditional tracks, “Done Wrong,” “My Only Hope,” and “Where I’m Trying to Go” start out with a calming atmospheric sound that transitions via drumroll to a driving, dance-oriented composition.

The last song on the album, a Bonus Track called “Sweet Long Life,” is definitely one of my top three favorite songs on the album. It starts off with a really mellow drum beat and piano progression, backed with a soft filtered vocal that really brings the emotion into the track. When the trumpets start playing and the drums get going, that’s when the real emotion shines, followed by a bouncy back-and-forth synth progression that reminds you you’re in a Pretty Lights song.

The album as a whole is a change of pace for Smith, but at the same time it has elements of his previous work that keep it rooted and filled with out-west electro vibes. This is arguably one of

the most well-conceived and intricate of Smith’s albums, and it will be interesting to see where he takes this concept of his inception-like recorded sampling on his next project.

4 Trippy Visuals out of 5



COME LOOK AT THE PRETTY LIGHTS: Electronic artist offers new variety and emotion to the EDM scene

MASTODON’S TOP ELECTRO-PICKS

Break Science
Nightmares on Wax
Nujabes
Thievery Corporation
Michael Menert

Breaking Bad gets broken open

Harrison Davies looks back on the drama, excitement



ALL GOOD THINGS MUST END IN TIME: *But talking about Game of Thrones isn't really quite the same*

By Harrison Davies

Staff Writer

The rise and fall of Walter White on AMC's hit TV series *Breaking Bad* will be remembered as one of the greatest, if not the greatest, TV show plots of all time. Writer Vince Gilligan has created an incredibly dynamic storyline displaying scenes of intense shootouts and train robberies, among others. All of those scenes are great, but they would be nothing without Bryan Cranston and his outstanding performance as Walter White, aka the great "Heisenberg." We honor this incredible show in *The Bell Ringer* by listing the top Heisenberg moments, quotes and things you may not have picked up on while watching.

[Top Ten Heisenberg moments/quotes:](#)

1. **"I am the one who knocks!"** – Although this quote has become the "Wagon Wheel" of the show, it truly is one the greatest lines in the most epic monologue of all time. Completely opposite of Jesus' seven "I Am" statements, Walter declares himself to be a force of evil that must be reckoned with. (Season 4, Episode 6)
2. **"Say my name."** - Said in the most condescending and prideful manner possible, the overqualified high school chemistry teacher, Walter White, is very hard to picture now. Heisenberg is in full control. (Season 5, Episode 7)
3. **"I won."** – After bombing a nursing home and killing Gustavo Fring, what else is there to say? It is so simple, yet so effective. (Season 4, Episode 13)

4. **"Fulminated mercury. A little tweak of chemistry."** – Right after setting off an intense explosion, Walter's first appearance as Heisenberg ends with him sarcastically teaching drug lord Tuco Salamanca a little something about chemistry. (Season 1, Episode 6)
5. **"If you don't know who I am, then maybe your best course would be to tread lightly."** – Threatening his own brother-in-law is no problem for Heisenberg at this point. (Season 5, Episode 9)
6. **"Because I say so."** – Walter lets Mike know who is really in charge of their new operation. (Season 5, Episode 1)
7. **"I watched Jane die."** – After realizing he will never hear Hank and Gomez's classic cop repartee ever again, Walter

does everything he can to ensure Jesse's total ruin. (Season 5, Episode 14)

8. **"I'm in the empire business."** – Not having anything left in terms of a loving family, Walter will stop at nothing to continue his cooking. (Season 5, Episode 6)

9. **"We're done when I say we're done."** – Walter tells Saul Goodman in a very dramatic fashion what's what. (Season 5, Episode 1)

10. **"For what time I have left, I want to live in my own house, I want to sleep in my own bed."** – Walter, having lived in desperation for such a long time, finally tells his family what he truly wants to do. (Season 1, Episode 5)

Five Commonly Unknown Things in *Breaking Bad*

1. **Jesse Pinkman was originally supposed to die at the end of Season 1**

- Hard to imagine *Breaking Bad* without Aaron Paul's stellar performance as Walter's partner.

2. **Color Symbolism** – The list goes on and on. Walter White, Jesse Pinkman, blue meth, Marie's love of purple, Heisenberg's black clothes and car...

3. **Saul Goodman** – "It's all good..... man" – The lawyer's helpful tricks make his name seem very intentional.

4. **Walter's picking up habits from people he has killed** – Lays down the towel exactly like Gus Fring does at Don Eladio's house in Mexico.

5. **Foreshadowing** – The floating pink teddy bear in Walter's pool in Season 2 seems to be nothing until you see that its face is burned exactly like Gustavo Fring's is at the end of Season 4.

Try Something New?

Tyler Forcum says "There's more than just Mad Men"

By Tyler Forcum
Staff Writer

Tired of watching USA reruns? Well lucky for you, the recent advent of services like DVR, Netflix, and Apple TV allows audiences to follow their favorite shows at their own convenience.

As a result, viewer demand is actually on the rise and viewer demographics are broadening. Accordingly, networks have started investing more time and money than ever in producing quality television series. And no, I'm not talking about "Burn Notice" or "The Big Bang Theory." I'm talking about shows like "Game of Thrones," "Walking Dead," "Breaking Bad," "Arrested Development" and "Mad Men."

These are all veteran TV series that have received a lot of press, but I want to let you know about a few shows that only recently premiered but have received great reviews and are expected to experience meteoric rises in viewer base.

My personal favorite, "Vikings," is a show that started last spring and premiered, surprisingly, on the History Channel. But this is not a documentary or

the usual History Channel rubbish. This series tells the tale of Ragnar Lothbrok, a famous Viking from legend. The first season illustrates Ragnar's journey as he finally discovers a technology that will allow him to sail west to England. Ragnar quickly builds fame through his exploits in the West as he and his men pillage towns, kingdoms and monasteries. The rest of the season follows his ambition's pushing him to even greater lengths.

Another great new series, "House of Cards," is about Frank Underwood, the House Majority Whip in Congress, who is trying to exact revenge in the cutthroat world of politics in Washington, D.C. The show starts out with a dark premise concerning Frank's philosophy on pain, and his morals only seem to decline from there as it becomes clear that there is no line he won't cross in his quest for vengeance.

It is also worth mentioning "Hell on Wheels," an exciting show on AMC that just finished its second season. This show is about the lawless town known as "Hell on Wheels" that travels with and services the construction of the First Transcontinental Railroad. Conflict arises

in this show as the two large parts of North America are being forced together and tensions between the North and South remain as fresh as ever.

So take a break from the soap operas and turn on something worth watching. Meaningful shows like these are shaping the future of television.



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WE ARE NOT A SPINOFF OF GAME OF THRONES: *History Channel debuts its fictionalized venture into the Norse World, still more historical than Pawn Stars.*



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MONICO MONTGOMERY 2011.

EVERYTHING WENT AT "ANYTHING GOES"

By Andrew Kaplan
Staff Writer

This year's MBA-Harper Hall collaborative musical proved to be a thrilling, adventurous, and hilarious comedic performance filled with captivating tunes.

The plot is a classic comedy of errors: on a luxury cruise sailing from the United States to London, a love triangle; including Billy Crocker (Caleb Carpenter), Hope Harcourt (Morgan Dentz), and Evelyn Oakleigh (Jess Darnell); develops and brings the violent and passionate interactions between them to life. The Wall Street broker, Billy, is in love with Ms. Harcourt, but she is engaged to Sir Evelyn Oakleigh and is to be married to him upon reaching England. Billy is compelled to stay on the cruise for the voyage, as he cannot bear to see Hope marry another man.

Attempting to win over Hope's affection throughout the show, Billy passionately and excellently expresses his true feelings for her. Caleb Carpenter made for an excellent Billy. Separately, nightclub singer Reno Sweeney (Lark Morrison) falls for Evelyn and begins to chase after his heart. Their playful banter and songs were some of the fan favorites, which also included Jess Darnell's "Gypsy In Me," in which his character explored some of the comedy behind British stereotypes of the time period. Interestingly enough, many of these retained their hilarity to present day.

Another fan favorite from the musical was Henry Rogers, playing the



IF YOU'RE EVER DOWN A WELL, RING OUR BELL: Lark Morrison, Henry Rogers, and Caleb Carpenter perform

"soulful fool" role of Moonface Martin, a clumsy criminal vying to become famous for his crimes

Compelling events further, Eli Whitney (Coleman Sorenson), Billy's boss, gets his glasses stolen by Moonface and spends the entire voyage practically blind ends up with a relationship with Mrs. Harcourt (Leah Portis). In the end, Billy earns Hope's love, Reno and Evelyn get married, and Moonface and his accomplice Bonnie (Caroline Sandrell) gain freedom and possibly a life together.

The acting in the show was fantastic, thrilling the audience with every move. The costumes and the props were all done exceedingly well. The musical offered both excitement and laughs as the audience watched the characters weave their ways in and out of hilarious situations on the stage. The large scale musical numbers were revealed with grace and ease, radiating an immaculate energy. Not a note was missed during the entire performance, an astounding feat considering the use of dialect and accents in several characters roles

With only about a month to prepare the entire musical, the outcome was terrific. I believe it was one of the best collaborative musicals in years. This start to the theater year is very exciting and sets the stage in a fantastic way for the productions to come.

It was an all around great job by all the actors, actresses, techies, and directors, a fantastic start to the 2013 school year. Everything goes in this year's rendition of *Anything Goes*.



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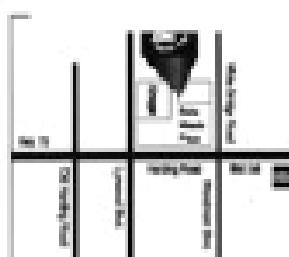




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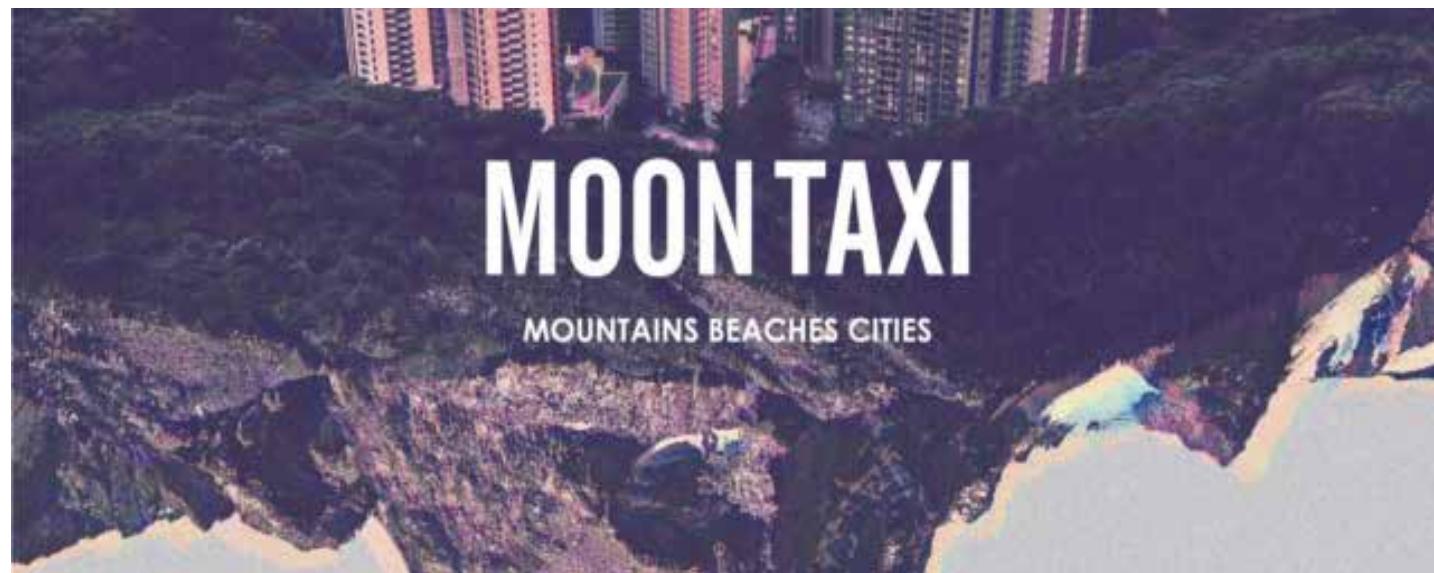


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SEMI-LOCAL TUNES: *Moon Taxi*



RIDING A CELESTIAL CAB THROUGH SPACE AND TIME: *Big things coming from Nashville's very own Moon Taxi*

By Steve Wood
Staff Writer

Nashville rock group Moon Taxi is doing things big. Appearing at Bonnaroo and Lollapalooza in 2012, touring the eastern US from Florida to New York, and scheduling shows with big names like Michael Franti & Spearhead, Moon Taxi has large aspirations and a growing fan-base. The group's new album, released with major record label BMG, reflects the band's growth.

Mountains Beaches Cities shows broad diversity and experimentation in sound without straying too far from Moon Taxi's roots. Their newest composition strives to please current fans as well as hopefully branch out and attract a wider listening base.

The album emanates power: strong bass, confident percussion, smooth keyboard, compelling guitars and excellent songwriting lends to an altogether forceful album. At the same time, the group manages to incorporate Americana-oriented instrumentation to their already powerful sound. The result is subtle, but brilliant compositions that

leave the listener in careful anticipation, as the sounds come together to present a cohesive musical compilation.

The opening song, "Running Wild," has a somewhat pop, commercialized sound. Subsequent songs tend towards a more rock or alternative sound. Catchy rhythm, vocal harmony, and fun lyrics make "Morocco" one of the standout songs. Of the entire album, "Change" is most similar to Moon Taxi's older sound, specifically the style heard in the group's 2011 album *Cabaret*.

The album makes a strong transition with "Young Journey," a smooth acoustic song with strong vocal harmony and a banjo solo. Ensuing songs feature greater ambient and electronic elements: heavier use of synthesizer, reverb and spacey vocal effects. "Struck Me Down" has a feel distinctly different from much of the album; its electronic emphasis and unorthodox key changes in the chorus make it unique and interesting.

In "Juniper," the final song of the album, Moon Taxi opts for a rather slow, spacey feel with strong, consistent bass and rhythm. Warbling, modulated vocals and smooth, harmonic

melodies give the song incredible depth and three-dimensionality. This tranquil, neo-psychadelic feel makes "Juniper" a standout, displaying Moon Taxi's strongest musicianship as well.

as their unique and refreshing musical perspective..

Moon Taxi has undoubtedly hit a high note with *Mountains Beaches Cities*. The album is among the best of the group's work and will certainly be hard to compete with in the future. The entire album deserves a listen and contains such diversity that it should appeal to most listeners. In fact, *Mountains Beaches Cities* is one of my favorite albums of 2013, hopefully a potential opportunity for the band to gain more widespread recognition in the music community. I would encourage everyone to check it out, as well as Moon Taxi's other music. You will not be disappointed.

5 Ironic 'Staches out of



MOON TAXI HAS COME A LONG WAY SINCE PLAYING AT HARPETH HALL'S PROM: Band headlines killer set at Nashville's own Live on the Green

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An advertisement for The Local Taco. It features a central circular logo with the words "THE Local TACO" in white on a dark blue background. To the left is a close-up of a taco, and to the right is a bowl of guacamole. Below the logo is the text "Fresh. Casual. Local." and "CATERING SPECIAL EVENTS". At the bottom, there is contact information: "THE LOCAL TACO . COM", "4501 murphy road, nashville + 146 pewitt drive, brentwood", "615.891.3271 | 615.915.4666", and "CATERING SPECIAL EVENTS".

QUADRANGLE OF HORROR

THE BELL RINGER TELLS SPOOKY GHOST STORIES

By Wells Hamilton
Area Man

October is upon us, and *The Bell Ringer* staff is getting in the mood for Halloween. (No, we did not make Aaron dress up as Harry Potter.) Now I know what you're thinking. "Bell Ringer, isn't it a little early to start tailoring your MBA themed jokes around Halloween, seeing as Halloween is weeks and weeks away?" The answer? No. No it is not and you can quit complaining. So without further delay, we present to you, *The Bell Ringer's Quadrangle of Horror Volume One.*

Tales have been circulated that the new chess set by Massey is possessed by the spirits of 8th graders who were kicked off of the Atlanta trip, playing on and on until the small hours of the morning.

Rumor has it that if you stand in the middle of Mr. Kelly's classroom with the lights out and recite the prologue of *The Canterbury Tales* backwards, Mr. Kelly comes in, turns on the lights and quietly asks you to leave.

The Ingram Building is actually built on an old Cherokee Burial ground. That is why it's always cold and smells like formaldehyde. Mr. Pruitt doesn't even know how to whistle... what have you been hearing?

Students report seeing mysterious spectres wandering around the Patrick Wilson Library early in the morning. Sources say that these ghosts never actually leave and have grown steadily paler due to the lack of sunlight.

The story goes that if you stand in Ball's 2nd Floor Bathroom and say Isaac Ball's name three times in a row with the lights out, Coach Deutsch comes in and tells you to come back to Geometry.

Currey Gymnasium is haunted by the ghost of Phil Smith, who came to MBA in the 1980's from Harding Academy and didn't make the basketball team his freshman year. Overcome with grief, he vowed to hustle harder and reach for the stars. Some say you can still hear the sound of him practicing left handed layups in the small hours of the morning.

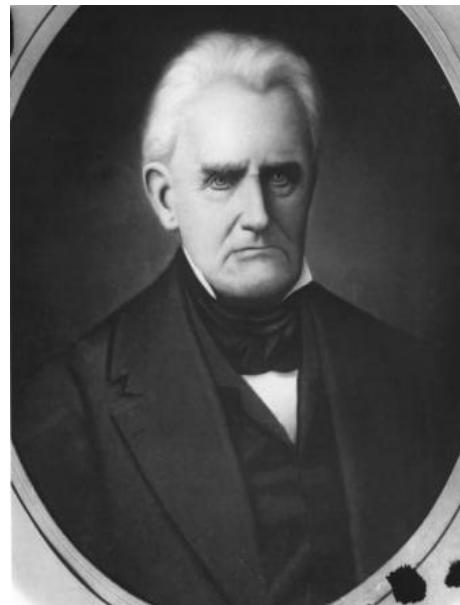
The ghost of Clarence B. Wallace still haunts the grounds. Angry that the new dining hall still is not called "Wallace Hall," the ghost forces the topic of the new dining hall to come up every assembly until it is rightfully named in his honor.

The statue of Sam Davis is actually still haunted by his spirit, full of teenage angst and unrequited love. He roams the campus every Homecoming and Prom, quietly offering to carry girls' things and let them wear his jacket in an undying but futile display of Southern chivalry.

If you put pasta, peanut butter, carrots, and oreo pudding into a cup and eat it on the fall solstice, the spirit of Julian Jones will pat you on the shoulder and instruct you towards the mysterious



DEAAAAAAAD POETS, DEAAAAAAAAD POETS, DEAAAAAAAD POETS: *Or how I introduce my high school to strangers*



MONTGOMERY BELL HARBORS DARK SECRETS: *Like why its founder is never pictured smiling*

There has been talk circulating about the mysterious "basement to the basement" of Ball, where the real Dead Poet Society still holds secret moonlight meetings to determine new campus quotes.

Hushed stories of a werewolf roaming 42nd avenue have been heard among the microbes. Sources seem to indicate that this is just the return of Sam Garner to his old hunting grounds.

Students swear that the smell of every microbe still lingers around the Junior School locker room. Wait, that's not a ghost story, that's a fact....

Many believe MBA's bell tower harbors benevolent spirits that ring the bell continuously at 3:33 AM on the morning of the first IPS exam. Ask not for whom the bell tolls.

The bizarre smell on the 2nd floor of Lowry is actually caused by the ghost of Aristotle, upset that students still don't believe that character is (almost) the most effective means of persuasion.

The training room is actually possessed by a mysterious entity that gives incredibly minor injuries to 8th grade football players who sacrifice their dignity on an altar by the football field.

Old timers swear that Long Mountain is home to a small pack of Will o' the Wisps who create vague, nearly imperceptible traces of ambient light, before disappearing into the woods.



CARRY YOUR COAT M'LADY?: *Boy hero of the confederacy loathes the friendzone.*

A mysterious "man with no pants" is said to walk down Harding Road at roughly 12:30 on any given Wednesday during the Spring. (Seriously. I couldn't make this one up.)



WHAT? WHAT WAS THAT?! DID YOU SEE THAT??: *Actual photographic evidence of ghostly presence on campus*